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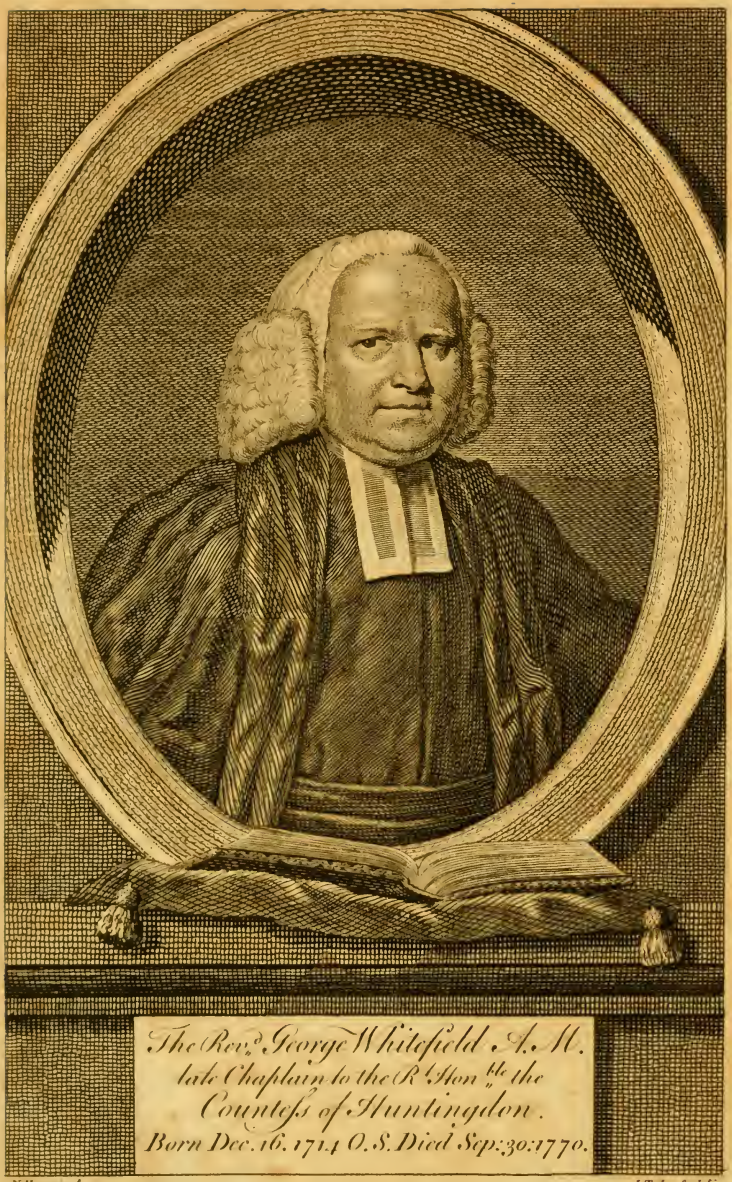

The Revd George Whitefield A. M.
late Chaplain to the Rt Hon.ble the
Countess of Huntingdon.
Born Dec. 16. 1714 O.S. Died Sep.t 30. 1770.

N. Hone pinx.t

I. Taylor Sculp.t

THE

WORKS

OF THE REVEREND

GEORGE WHITEFIELD, M. A.

Late of PEMBROKE-COLLEGE, OXFORD,

And Chaplain to the Rt. Hon. the Counteſs of HUNTINGDON.

CONTAINING

All his SERMONS and TRACTS

Which have been already publiſhed:

WITH

A SELECT COLLECTION of LETTERS,

Written to his moſt intimate Friends, and Perſons of Diſtinction, in *England*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *America*, from the Year 1734, to 1770, including the whole Period of his Miniſtry.

ALSO

Some other PIECES on IMPORTANT SUBJECTS, never before printed; prepared by Himſelf for the Preſs.

To which is prefixed,

An ACCOUNT of his LIFE,

Compiled from his Original PAPERS and LETTERS.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

Printed for EDWARD and CHARLES DILLY, in the Poultry; and Meſſrs. KINCAID and BELL, at Edinburgh.

MDCCLXXI.

Entered at STATIONERS-HALL, agreeable
to Act of Parliament.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THIS complete Edition of the late Rev. Mr. WHITEFIELD'S Works (printed under the Direction of his Executors) it is preſumed, will be highly acceptable to all his Friends, as the juſt and proper Monument of his Memory and Merit; and both pleaſing and uſeful to the Public in general, but eſpecially to thoſe who deſire to cheriſh and promote the Spirit of primitive Chriſtianity.

To the Sermons and Tracts formerly publiſhed, and which are now ranged in their proper Order, are alſo added other Pieces, on the moſt Important Subjects: together with a valuable Collection of Letters, ſelected and prepared by himſelf for Publication; in which is diſplayed, that native Spirit and Simplicity, ſo eminently conſpicuous in his Life and Converſation. His Friends, and even his Enemies (ſhould there be any ſuch) will here openly behold his unwearied Diligence, undaunted Firmneſs, noble Diſintereſtedneſs, and exceeding Uſefulneſs in the Work of the Miniſtry; alſo, his remarkable Fidelity in Friendſhip, exemplary Piety, and fervent Zeal for the Proſperity of pure and undefiled Religion.

The Letters and Works can ſtand in no need of any Recommendation: Connected with the account of his Life, (now drawn from original Papers) they exhibit a plain and undiſguiſed View of the worthy Author, in all Parts of his public Service, as well as in his private Retirements, and inward Trials; faithfully ſhewing the Whole of that *living Temple*, which was ſacred to God, and happily inſtructing Mankind in the Ways of Godlineſs and eternal Life.

LETTERS.

LETTER I.

To Mr. G. H.

Dear Sir, *Oxon, July* 18, 1734.

HAVING heard the melancholy news of your brother's death, I could not help ſending you a line, to let you know how much I am concerned. Indeed, I cannot ſay, I am ſo much grieved on his account, as for that ſorrow, which the loſs of ſo valuable a youth muſt neceſſarily occaſion to all his relations. No! I rather envy him his bleſſed condition. He, unqueſtionably is divinely bleſſed, whilſt we are ſtill left behind to wreſtle with unruly paſſions, and by a continued looking unto JESUS and running in our chriſtian race, to preſs forward to that high prize, of which he, *dear Youth*, is now in full fruition. Theſe are my true ſentiments about his death; I leave you to judge then, whether I had need be concerned on his account; and ſurely was it to be put to your choice, whether ſo religious a young man ſhould live or die, no one could be ſo cruel, as to wiſh to detain him from his wiſhed-for glory. Be not then too much concerned at his death, but let us rather learn that important leſſon, which his whole life taught us: "That there is nothing comparable to an early piety." I thought to have ſpent many agreeable hours with him in chriſtian and edifying converſation, when I came to *Glouceſter*; but he is gone to more agreeable company, and long before now has joined the heavenly choir.

I ſhall only add, that as your brother imitated our bleſſed SAVIOUR in his life, ſo I pray GOD, he may reſemble him in

his death, and be a means, like his beloved Redeemer, of reconciling all former animosities, which is the hearty wish of, dear Sir,

Your sincere friend and humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER II.

To Mr. G. H.

Dear Sir, *Bristol, Sept.* 10, 1734.

THIS morning I wrote to you in haste, expecting Mr. *I.* would soon be going; but to my great satisfaction, he came hither this night, and soon afterwards, your very much wished-for letter was brought to hand; which (after ten thousand thanks for so many repeated favours) I shall now beg leave to answer. You tell me "Mr. *P.* likes *N.*" GOD be praised! That he hath recommended something to my perusal. I'll read it, GOD willing, with care, at my return. "That he wants to know my quality, state, condition, circum-"stances, &c." Alas! that any one should enquire after such a wretch as I am. However, since he hath been so kind, pray tell him, that as for my quality, I was a poor, mean drawer; but by the distinguishing grace of GOD, am now intended for the ministry. As for my estate, that I am a servitor; and as to my condition and circumstances, I have not of my own any where to lay my head. But my friends, by GOD's providence, minister daily to me, and in return for such unmerited, unspeakable blessings, I trust the same good Being will give me grace to dedicate myself without reserve to his service. To "spend and be spent" for the welfare of my fellow-creatures, endeavouring to promote the gospel of his Son as much as lies in my poor power. But "observe his "humility," says Mr. *H.* Aye, catch an old Christian without profound humility, if you can. Believe me, *Sir*, it is nothing but this flesh of ours, those cursed seeds of the proud apostate, which lie lurking in us, that make us to think ourselves worthy of the very air we breathe. When our eyes are opened by the influences of divine grace, we then shall begin to think of ourselves as we ought to think, even, that GOD is all, and we are less than nothing. Well, you may cry, O happy temper, could I but learn of CHRIST to be meek

and

and lowly in heart, I ſhould certainly find reſt to my ſoul. May GOD, for his dear SON's ſake, give it to you, to me, and to all our dear friends! "Some like, ſome diſlike the ex-"tract," you ſay. I did not do it, to pleaſe man, but GOD. "Mr. *W.* is too much engaged in temporals." Is he? Oh dear Sir, pray that when I enter the miniſtry, I may be wholly engaged in ſpirituals: But "Mrs. *H.* has been ill, and is "now recovered." GOD be praiſed for both! Our Saviour, *Sir*, learnt obedience by the things which he ſuffered, ſo muſt we. Pain, if patiently endured, and ſanctified to us, is a great purifier of our corrupted nature. It will teach us excellent leſſons. I hope Mr. *H.* has been enabled to learn ſome of them. So much in anſwer to your kind letter. You ſay "it was too long." Believe me, *Sir*, it was much too ſhort; but a line is more than I deſerve. However, I have made out in mine, what was wanting in yours. *My Mother's* journey to *Gloucester*, I fear, is ſpoiled by the weather. GOD's bleſſed will be done! I hope to be with you about next *Tueſday* ſevennight. "I am miſſed," you ſay; and you may well miſs ſuch a troubleſome gueſt. Well, GOD will reward you richly, I truſt. Never deſpair of *my brother*; when GOD acts upon the ſoul, he makes quick work of it. Be pleaſed to tell Mr. *M.* that his remiſſneſs hath occaſioned me many a ſigh, and his return from his relapſe, matter of abundant thanks to GOD in his behalf. Oh let us young, unexperienced ſoldiers, be always upon our guard; the very moment we deſert our poſt, the enemy ruſhes in; and if he can but divert our eyes from looking heavenward, he will ſoon ſo blind us, that we ſhall not look towards it at all. A great deal may be learned from a little fall. But I muſt not detain you any longer, than to aſſure you how much I am, *Dear Sir*,

Your and Mrs. *H.*'s ſincere friend and ſervant,
in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER III.

To Mr. H.

Dear Sir, *Oxon, Sept.* 17, 1734.

I Had the favour of your letter laſt *Friday*, which brought me the agreeable news of your and Mrs. *H.*'s welfare, to-

gether with the much-desired account of your approving the scheme, inclosed in my last. Indeed, I did not doubt of its meeting with a candid reception, from all those persons to whom it was recommended. Their known concern for religion, giving me sufficient assurance, that nothing can be unacceptable to them, which any way tended to promote their improvement in the divine life. It must be confessed, indeed, as you very justly observed, that we must make a great progress in religion, and be inured by frequent prayer and meditation, to the extatic contemplation of heavenly objects, before we can arrive at true heavenly-mindedness; and, perhaps, after all our endeavours, whilst our souls are immersed in these fleshly tabernacles, we shall make but very small advances in so delightful and glorious an undertaking. But believe me, *Sir*, you cannot imagine, how vastly serviceable the constant use of all the means of religion will be, in acquiring this blessed habit of mind. Such, as an early rising in the morning, public and private prayer, a due temperance in all things, and frequent meditation on the infinite love and purity of that unparalleled pattern of all perfection, our dear Redeemer. As for your mentioning, *Sir*, the degeneracy of the age, as the least objection against our making further advances in any religious improvement, I cannot by any means admit of it. The scriptures (as I take it) are to be the only rules of action. And the examples of our blessed LORD and his apostles, the grand patterns whereby we are to form the conduct of our lives. It is true, indeed, that instances of an exalted piety are rarely to be met with in the present age, and one would think, if we were to take an estimate of our religion, from the lives of most of its professors, that christianity was nothing but a dead letter. But then it is not our religion, but ourselves that are to be blamed all this while. Would we live as the primitive christians did, we might no doubt have the same assistance vouchsafed us, as they had. GOD's grace is never restrained, and though we should not arrive at those heights of heavenly-mindedness, as some of the primitive christians were eminent for, yet, methinks we should imitate them as far as we can, and rely on the divine goodness for grants of such a supply of grace, as he, in his good pleasure, shall judge most convenient for us. Be pleased to send for Mr. *Law's Christian Perfection*

Perfection for me againſt my coming into the country, if printed in a ſmall edition. I am, with due reſpects to ſelf, ſpouſe, and all other friends,

Your's ſincerely,

G. W.

LETTER IV.

To the Same.

Oxon, Dec. 4, 1734.

Dear Sir,

I Am heartily glad to hear that the *country parſon* has had ſo good an effect upon you, and that you are reſolved to ſet in earneſt, about working out your ſalvation: Be ſure quench not theſe firſt motions; but go on vigorouſly and manfully, without the leaſt regard to what the world may ſay; if you can once break with that, you are ſafe. The *prayers*, I hope to ſend you next week. Only let me give you this caution, not to depend on any advice or book, that is given you; but ſolely on the grace of GOD attending it. The book which I have ſent to my brother, and would recommend to you and all my *Glouceſter* friends, will ſoon convince you how dangerous it is to be a lukewarm chriſtian, and that there is nothing to be done without breaking from the world, denying ourſelves daily, taking up our croſs, and following JESUS CHRIST. Theſe things may ſeem a little terrible at firſt, but believe me, they are nothing but ſuggeſtions of our enemy to deter us from ſetting out; and if you can credit me, mortification itſelf, when once practiſed, is the greateſt pleaſure in the world. But hold, I ſhall tranſgreſs the time preſcribed me, therefore give me only leave to add my hearty prayer for your ſucceſsful progreſs in religion, and to ſubſcribe myſelf in great haſte,

Dear Sir,

Your ſincere friend and humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER V.

To the Same.

Oxon, Feb. 20, 1735.

Dear Sir,

I Believe you think me a ſtrange ſort of a perſon, for not being ſo good as my word in coming down this winter; and

and what is worſe, in not letting you have a line to acquaint you of my reaſons for it. And, indeed, I am not as yet determined; providence having ordered (I hope) that this ſeeming unkindneſs ſhall, in the end, prove very ſerviceable on all ſides. However, though I have been thus hindred, yet, I think you heard from me laſt, and am really ſurprized to find you ſhould, now ſo long ſince, have deſired that *collection of prayers*, and be wholly unconcerned about them ever after. Indeed, they will be of no ſervice to you, unleſs you grant me this one poſtulatum: "That we muſt renounce ourſelves." What the meaning of this phraſe may be, the preface to the prayers will beſt inform you. I did not doubt of its meeting with but a cold reception, it being (at firſt view) ſo very contrary to fleſh and blood. For, perhaps, you may think, that this renouncing of ourſelves, muſt neceſſarily lead us (as it certainly does) to acts of ſelf-denial and mortification; and, that we probably may be ſaved without them. And leſt you ſhould after all imagine, (which I truſt you will not) that true religion does conſiſt in any thing, beſides an entire renewal of our natures into the image of God; I have ſent you a book entitled, *The Life of* GOD *in the Soul of Man*, written by a young, but an eminent chriſtian, which will inform you, what true religion is, and by what means you may attain it. As likewiſe, how wretchedly moſt people err in their ſentiments about it, who ſuppoſe it to be nothing elſe (as he tells us page 3d) but a mere model of outward performances; without ever conſidering, that all our corrupt paſſions muſt be ſubdued, and a complex habit of virtues, ſuch as meekneſs, lowlineſs, faith, hope, and the love of GOD and of man, be implanted in their room, before we can have the leaſt title to enter into the kingdom of GOD. Our divine maſter having expreſsly told us, that "unleſs we renounce ourſelves, and take "up our croſs daily, we cannot be his diſciples." And again, "unleſs we have the ſpirit of CHRIST, we are none of his." You will ſcarce have time, I imagine, before Mr. *H.* leaves *Glouceſter*, to reviſe, what I have recommended to your peruſal. However, be pleaſed to let me hear from you by him, together with an account of your free ſentiments about this matter. I truſt (by GOD's grace) we ſhall, at laſt, rightly underſtand one another's meaning. I ſhould be glad to hear too, whether you

keep

keep morning prayers, and how often you receive the holy communion, there being nothing, which so much be-dwarfs us in religion, and hinders our progress towards the heavenly Canaan, as starving our souls by keeping away from the heavenly banquet. I have nothing more to add at present on this subject, till you favour me with a line, which, I hope, you will not fail doing by Mr. *H.* who will willingly bring it to,

Dear Sir,

Your sincere friend and very humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER VI.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Oxon, March* 6, 1735.

I Had the favour of your letter by Mr. *H.* and, as desired, I have made enquiry about the post-masters and clerks of Merton. As to the former, I hear, that the five senior fellows have each a power to elect one in his turn, and that there is now a vacancy, but one ready on the spot to supply it, and no likelihood of there being another this long while. The latter, are solely in the power of the warden, and though all the places are at present filled up, yet, there will be a vacancy next term, so that, perhaps, by a seasonable application, your brother may get a friend in. Thus much for business. As for the other particular, specified in the latter part of your last; I find by what I can gather from your own and my brother's expressions, as well as from Mr. *H.*'s discourse, that my late letters have met with but a cold reception; and that you seem desirous of hearing no more of so seemingly ungrateful a subject, as submitting our wills to the will of GOD; which, indeed, is all that is implied in that phrase (which our enemy would represent as so formidable to us) of *renouncing ourselves*. Alas, Sir! what is there that appears so monstrously terrible in a doctrine that is, (or at least ought to be) the constant subject of our prayers, whenever we put up that petition of our LORD's: "*Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven.*" The import of which seems to be this. 1st. That we do every thing that GOD wills, and nothing but what he willeth. 2dly, That we do every thing he wills, *only* in the manner he willeth. 3dly, That we do those things he willeth, only

because he willeth. This is all, Sir, I have been endeavouring to inculcate in my late letters; and though it seems as clear as the light, upon an impartial and considerate view, yet, our grand impostor (whose very corruption is having a will distinct from, and therefore contrary to GOD's) would fain set it out in the most hideous colours, as though we were "Setters forth of strange doctrines;" or proposing some higher degrees of perfection, than every ordinary christian is obliged to aspire after; whereas, in truth, it is nothing but the simple and evident language of the gospel. It must be confessed, that through the corruption of our depraved nature, and that power, which self-will has, since the Fall, usurped in the soul, we must necessarily break through a great many obstacles. But, dear Sir, be not dismayed, the difficulty lies only in our first setting out. Be but vigorous at the first onset, and never fear a conquest. The renewal of our natures is a work of great importance. It is not to be done in a day. We have not only a new house to build up, but an old one to pull down. But then, methinks, this would be an odd way of reasoning, "Because a thing requires some pains, I therefore will never set about it." No, Sir, rather up and be doing. Exert your utmost efforts at your first setting out, and take my word, your strength as well as resolution will increase daily. The means also which are necessary to be used in order to attain this end, our cursed adversary the devil would represent to us in the most hideous forms imaginable. But believe me, Sir, the difficulty here too, only lies in our first breaking from ourselves, and that there is really more pleasure in these formidable duties of self-denial and mortification, than in the highest indulgences of the greatest epicure upon earth. Give me leave, dear Sir, only to remind you of one particular, which, if duly observed, will vastly facilitate your future endeavours. Let the scriptures, not the world, be your rule of action. By those you are to form your practice here, and to be judged hereafter. Upon this account, for the future, I should be glad, if you would communicate what passes between you and me, to none but my brother and your spouse. And if you have any, the least scruple, be pleased to send me word of it by a letter in an open, friendly manner; and, by GOD's blessing, all things will be yet set right; only be fervent

vent in prayer. As for what the Rev. Mr. *Hoar* has been pleaſed to ſay, either to you or Mr. *H.* it is not my buſineſs (out of deference, as he is ſo much my ſuperior, as to the dignity of his office, his age, and his learning) to make any reply. I ſhall only add, what I am ſure I can prove, "That "the goſpel tells us that there is but one thing needful. "That we cannot ſit down content with juſt ſuch a degree "of goodneſs, and claim juſt ſuch a proportionable degree of "glory;" but that "we are to love the LORD with all our "ſouls, ſtrength, &c." and that "he who endureth to the "end, (and he only) ſhall be ſaved." There is a little treatiſe lately come out, which I have made bold to ſend to Mr. *Hoar*, where we may be fully convinced by argument deducible merely from reaſon, "that GOD is our ſole end," and that barely upon a principle of prudence, (ſuppoſing we could be happy without it) we ought to preſs forward, in order to attain the greateſt degrees of happineſs hereafter. Whether this letter, Sir, may prove as offenſive as the former, is not my buſineſs to enquire. GOD's will be done in all things. He, and he alone can (and indeed will, if we are deſirous of it ourſelves) work this conviction in our minds. Give me leave juſt to add, that I thought it my duty to anſwer theſe few objections, that have been raiſed againſt the difficulty of conforming our wills to the will of GOD, by ſhewing that the greateſt ſtruggle lies only at our firſt beginning, and that it is no more than what is indiſpenſably neceſſary for our ſalvation. As for the means to be employed for the attainment of this end, I ſhall be wholly ſilent: Being ſenſible, that if you are once fully convinced of the greatneſs of it, you will be neceſſarily carried on to the uſe of ſuch means as GOD hath conſtituted for that purpoſe. I hope my writing after this manner, Sir, will not be eſteemed a piece of ſelf-conceit, or be an inſtrument of unlooſing our former band of friendſhip, which was once deſigned to be bound the faſter, by tying it with a religious knot. But whether this proves to be the event, or not, of my telling my friends the truth, I wholly leave to GOD's Providence. Be pleaſed however to favour me with a line in return, and give me leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, Dear Sir,

Your ſincere friend and moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER VII.

To the Same.

My dear Friend, *Briſtol, June* 12, 1735.

LAST night about eight o'clock, your good ſpouſe and myſelf came ſafe to our journey's end, and met with a very kind reception from all parties. After you left us, the ladies grew more ſerious, and at laſt by the aſſiſtance of *Mr. Norris*, our diſcourſe ran into a proper channel. My brother does not propoſe ſailing this fortnight; but tho' he ſtays longer than he propoſed, yet I hope to be at *Glouceſter* on Wedneſday, for methinks my heart is ſtill there, tho' my body be at thirty miles diſtance. On whoſe account, I leave you to gueſs. I cannot help reflecting on Sunday. Did not thoſe ſighs, think you, Sir, proceed from ſome unuſual meditations on the importance of religion? Were they not ſome infant ſtrugglings after the new birth? Surely they were. And I truſt ere long, after a few ſtrugglings with corrupted nature, the Holy Ghoſt will repleniſh your heart with comfort and peace. Proper retirement and ſolitude are no bars; but rather great helps to a religious life. We find, our Saviour was led into a wilderneſs, before he entered on his publick miniſtry, and ſo muſt we too, if we ever intend to tread in his ſteps. As for my brother, I truſt the cares of the world, the deſire of riches, &c. will not always choak the good ſeed. However, I hope you my dear friend will not defer ſo important a thing. But, why do I ſay hope, when I am aſſured you will not. Methinks, I would willingly undergo the pangs, ſo you might enjoy the pleaſures of the new birth. But this muſt not be. All we can do is to ſympathize with and pray for each other, which I hope will not be wanting on either ſide, as ſuch a cloſe friendſhip has commenced between dear *Mr. H.* and

Your ſincere friend and humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER VIII.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Briſtol, Sept.* 5, 1735.

HOW welcome is a line from a faithful friend? even as welcome as a ſhower of rain in a droughty ſeaſon. But here's

here's the misfortune, the very kindneſſes of friends may be cruelty: Commendations, or even the hinting at them, are poiſon to a mind addicted to pride. A nail never ſinks deeper than when dipt in oil. A friend's words may be ſofter than butter, and notwithſtanding be very ſwords. Pray for me, dear Sir, and heal the wound you have made. To GOD alone give glory. To ſinners nothing belongs, but ſhame and confuſion. So much in anſwer to one part of your too kind letter. *Mrs. Powell* you ſay continues very ill. No wonder, Sir; deſperate diſeaſes muſt have deſperate remedies. Satan has deſired to ſift her as wheat; but CHRIST will pray for her, I truſt, and then her faith will not fail. Oxford friends have not been wanting in letters, and I find I muſt not ſtay much longer here. For ſome are going to travel, ſome are dead, and one is married, ſo that we muſt join and warm one another, as well as we can in their abſence. I hope to feaſt with you at *Crypt* next Sunday. Amazing, that ever ſinners ſhould ſit with their Saviour! To what dignity has CHRIST exalted human nature. And how did he do it? Why, by humbling himſelf. Let us go and do likewiſe. Give me leave, with due reſpects to all friends, to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Your and ſpouſes very humble ſervant and ſincere friend,

G. W.

P. S. If Mr. Pauncefort's petitions run after this manner for me, I ſhould be thankful: "That GOD would finiſh the good work he has begun in me, that I may never ſeek nor be fond of worldly preferment; but employ every mite of thoſe talents it ſhall pleaſe GOD to entruſt me with, to his glory and the church's good, and likewiſe, that the endeavours of my friends to revive true religion in the world, may meet with proper ſucceſs."

LETTER IX.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Briſtol, Sept.* 18, 1735.

AS you did not expect to hear from me till *Mr. B——d* came, I hope you have not as yet accuſed me of being too dilatory in writing. Now I have taken the freedom, what can be more proper for me to begin with, than to return

ten

ten thouſand thanks for thoſe innumerable favours conferred on me at your houſe? I truſt they are all regiſtered in the court of heaven, and will in due time meet with a ſuitable return from my all-gracious and good benefactor. Next to this, I imagine you will enquire, how I like Briſtol? As for the place itſelf, that, like all others, is indifferent to me, who have here no continuing city, but ſeek one to come; and as for the inhabitants, tho' they teach me nothing elſe, yet I may learn this one important leſſon, that unleſs I am very vigilant, the children of this world, will be much wiſer in their generation, than I, who, by the grace of GOD, hope am a child of light. Alas! was I half ſo ſolicitous to attain heavenly, as they are worldly riches, I ſhould be rich indeed. That you all may be rich towards GOD, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir, Your very unworthy,

but ſincere friend and humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER X.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Oxon, March* 13, 1736.

I Have now but juſt time to acquaint you, that GOD gave me a pleaſant and ſafe journey, and what was ſtill a greater bleſſing, a joyful meeting with my zealous, hearty, ſincere friends. The alderman bore my expences, and was very agreeable company; ſo that on all accounts I have great reaſon to thank my good and gracious GOD, and to beg others to join with me in that important, that delightful duty. You will not forget retaining your old cuſtom of reading and ſinging. It's bad to leave off a good cuſtom, and the beſt way to make a progreſs in religion, is to perſiſt in, and to improve on the means we enjoy. I ſuppoſe honeſt James by this time is with you. My hearty love to him, and tell him, it would do his heart good to ſee what a number of true altogether chriſtians here are of his rank. I hope he will let none of them outſtrip him: He muſt watch and pray againſt ſelf-indulgence, ſloth, &c. eſpecially if he goes to a place where plenty of all things abound. My

due reſpects and hearty thanks to *Mrs. H.* and all friends. I hope none of their kindneſſes will ever be forgotten by

Your ſincere friend in great haſte,

G. W.

LETTER XI.

To the Same.

Deareſt Sir, *Oxon, April* 2, 1736.

WHAT a comfort is it for chriſtian friends to relate to each other the loving-kindneſs of the LORD? O let his praiſes be ever in our mouths, that we may be telling of his ſalvation from day to day. O *dear Sir*, I heartily join with you in the delightful duty of thankſgiving. I hope that you will have every day more and more experimental proofs of that intercourſe which is carried on between GOD in heaven, and ſaints on earth.

I muſt now inform you, that the perſon, who under GOD has given me the annuity, is *Sir John Philips* of London. The occaſion of it was as follows. Upon my coming up, two or three of our truſty friends were called from us, and being ſolicitous to keep up our ſociety here, the gentleman to whom you ſent the book, wrote to *Sir John Philips* and propoſed me (alas! how unfit) as a proper perſon to ſtay here and encourage our friends in fighting the good fight of faith. Accordingly he immediately offered me an annuity of twenty pounds. To ſhew his diſintereſtedneſs, he has promiſed me *that*, whether I continue here or not; and if I reſolve to ſtay at *Oxon*, he'll give me thirty pounds a year. If that will not do, I may have more; ſo that you ſee, my dear friend, what a critical point it is. All that we have to do is to pray, and watch Providence between this and *June*, when I propoſe, GOD willing, to enter into orders, and then no doubt my call will be clear. What makes me to think that this is a call from GOD is, that it will be convenient for taking my degree, and improving me in my ſtudies. Whether it be or no, GOD only knows; Father, therefore into thy hands I commend my ſpirit, for thou haſt redeemed me, O LORD thou GOD of truth. I approve greatly of your reading HENRY. GOD works by him here greatly, and may the LORD proſper it in your hands. Good dear Sir,

never

never leave off watching, reading, praying, ſtriving, till you experimentally find CHRIST JESUS formed within you. In a particular manner, my dear friend, watch againſt all temptations to ſloth. When you receive the ſacrament, earneſtly endeavour to be inwardly bettered by it the week following. Live every day as holily as you can. Be frequent in ſelf-examination morning and evening. Pray earneſtly from your heart. Wreſtle with GOD, beg him to haſten the new birth. Moreover be careful, diligent in your calling, labour hard with your own hands, that you may have to give to him that needeth. And labour not ſo much for the meat that periſheth, as to neglect purſuing that which endureth to eternal life. O *Mr. H.* my bowels are enlarged towards you. Believe me to be your ſincere, tho' unworthy friend,

G. W.

LETTER XII.

To the Same.

Dear Mr. H. *Oxon, April* 22, 1736.

NOW tell me the truth, have not you called me ungrateful? If you have not, it is more than I deſerve. I have nothing to plead but buſineſs, as an excuſe for not anſwering your laſt kind letter. Well, forgive me this once, and if I offend ſo again, then call me ungrateful indeed. You order'd me to make no acknowledgments for kindneſſes received. You'll ſuffer me to aſk another favour, if not to return any more thanks. Be ſo kind then, dear Sir, to deſire your brother to write to me as ſoon as poſſible. My good friend, *Sir John Philips*, has promiſed me thirty pounds a year, if I'll continue at Oxford, and yet I am in doubt, whether that annuity, and the being appointed to ſerve the priſon here, will be a ſufficient title for orders, therefore I beg both his advice and prayers. This is all I think that concerns outward affairs. But this ſolemn ſeaſon naturally leads me to ſay a word or two on a more important ſubject, "the death and paſſion of our bleſſed Lord and Saviour." If I miſtake not, you commemorate it to-morrow at *Crypt.* And bleſſed be GOD, I do at Chriſt Church. And oh that we may commemorate it as we ought;

that

that we may fix our thoughts intenſely on that great examplar and all atoning blood; that we may grow in love with his meekneſs and patience, and endeavour daily to be conformed to his moſt bleſſed image. Surely we cannot grow angry at trifles, when the Son of GOD endured ſuch bitter uſage, without the leaſt murmur or complaint. Surely, we cannot repine at any diſpenſations of Providence tho' ever ſo ſevere, when we conſider, how it pleaſed GOD to bruiſe our Saviour and lay upon him the iniquities of us all. Whatever befalls us, is but the due reward of our crimes; but this Redeemer had done nothing amiſs: he was bruiſed for our iniquities. I could run through every part of our LORD's ſufferings, and ſhew how neceſſary it is that we ſhould ſympathize with him in every particular. But as it now grows late, and I want a little time to prepare for to-morrow's ſolemnity, you'll excuſe me if I now only paraphraſe a little on the prayer of the thief on the croſs. LORD remember us and pray for us; LORD remember us and rule us; LORD remember us and prepare a place for us. LORD remember us in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment. My due reſpects to all friends, and am ſincerely

Yours,

G. W.

LETTER XIII.

To Mr. S.

My dear Friend, *Glouceſter, June* 20, 1736.

THIS is a day much to be remember'd, O my ſoul! for about noon, I was ſolemnly admitted by good *Biſhop Benſon*, before many witneſſes, into holy orders, and was, bleſſed be GOD, kept compoſed both before and after impoſition of hands. I endeavoured to behave with unaffected devotion; but not ſuitable enough to the greatneſs of the office I was to undertake. At the ſame time, I truſt, I anſwered to every queſtion from the bottom of my heart, and heartily prayed that GOD might ſay Amen. I hope the good of ſouls will be my only principle of action. Let come what will, life or death, depth or heighth, I ſhall henceforwards live like one who this day, in the preſence of

men and angels, took the holy ſacrament, upon the profeſſion of being inwardly moved by the Holy Ghoſt to take upon me that miniſtration in the church. This I began with reading prayers to the priſoners in the county goal. Whether I myſelf ſhall ever have the honour of ſtiling myſelf a priſoner of the LORD, I know not; but indeed, my dear friend, I can call heaven and earth to witneſs, that when the Biſhop laid his hand upon me, I gave myſelf up to be a martyr for him, who hung upon the croſs for me. Known unto him are all future events and contingences; I have thrown myſelf blindfold, and I truſt without reſerve, into his almighty hands; only I would have you obſerve, that till you hear of my dying for, or in my work, you will not be apprized of all the preferment that is expected by

Yours, &c. *G. W.*

LETTER XIV.

To the Same.

Dear Friend, *Glouceſter, June* 23, 1736.

NEVER a poor creature ſet up with ſo ſmall a ſtock. When the good Biſhop, who ordained me on Sunday, gave out laſt year in his viſitation charge, that he would ordain none under full three and twenty, my heart leap'd for joy, for then I thought my friends would not only be diſappointed in their hope of having me enter into orders ſo ſoon; but that I ſhould alſo have time (as was my intention) to make at leaſt a hundred ſermons, with which to begin my miniſtry; but this is ſo far from being the caſe, that I have not a ſingle one by me, except that which I made for a ſmall chriſtian ſociety, and which I ſent to a neighbouring clergyman, to convince him how unfit I was to take upon me the important work of preaching. He kept it for a fortnight, and then ſent it back with a guinea for the loan of it; telling me he had divided it into two, and had preached it morning and evening to his congregation. With this ſermon I intend to begin, GOD willing, next Sunday, not doubting, but that he, who increaſed a little lad's loaves and fiſhes for the feeding of a great multitude, will from time to time, in the proper uſe of appointed means, ſupply me with ſpiritual

ritual food for whatever congregation he in his all-wise Providence shall be pleased to call me to. Help, help me, my dear friend, with your warmest addresses to the throne of grace, that I may not only find mercy, but grace to help in time of need. At present this is the language of my heart,

A guilty weak and helpless worm into thy arms I fall,
Be thou my strength, my righteousness, my JESUS, *and my all.*

Oh cease not, for I must again repeat it, cease not to pray for

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER XV.

Dear Mrs. H. *Glocester, June* 28, 1736.

ACCORDING to my promise I am now seated to write you a farewell letter. For providence seems to demand my presence at *Oxford* immediately, and therefore I propose being there, GOD willing, on *Monday* night. But first let me return dear Mrs. *H.* my heartiest thanks for all past kindnesses, and assure her, that my incessant prayers shall never be wanting, that GOD may not forget her labour of love, in that she has so plentifully administered to me his unworthy servant, and yet does minister. To-morrow I am to preach at *Crypt*, but believe I shall displease some, being determined to speak against their assemblies. But I must tell them the truth, or otherwise I shall not be a faithful minister of CHRIST. Had providence so ordered, I should have been glad to have given you the cup of blessing; but since that favour is denied to me, I am resigned. However, I hope I shall not be unmindful of you, when I come near your place, nor be wanting in my prayers, that GOD would mercifully supply the want of outward means to you, by the operation of his Holy Spirit. I suppose you are, by this time, pretty well reconciled to *Worcester*, and that providence has shewn you that we may serve GOD acceptably in any place. Yes, Madam, let but our hearts be upright towards him, and by faith united to our dear LORD JESUS, we shall find that wherever we are, he will be with us, and we shall be with him. So far I had written on *Saturday* night; but being detained here in expectation of seeing my brother *James*, (who has not as yet been

ſo good as his word) I believe I can now acquaint you that I muſt ſet out on *Wedneſday* morning. I preached yeſterday at *Crypt*, and was mercifully ſupported and aſſiſted, for which great bleſſing, I hope you will return hearty thanks in my behalf. I truſt Miſs *James* continues her former earneſt deſires to be renewed in the ſpirit of her mind; for nothing will do but that. Indeed we may flatter ourſelves, that we may go to heaven without undergoing the pangs of the new birth; but we ſhall certainly find ourſelves deſperately miſtaken in the end. For till we are changed, till we are made meet for, we cannot in the nature of the thing be partakers of the heavenly inheritance with the ſaints in light. Let us therefore never ceaſe praying and ſtriving, till we find this bleſſed change wrought in us, and thereby we ourſelves brought off from relying on any or all outward ordinances for ſalvation. Our good biſhop *Benſon* was pleaſed to give me another preſent of five guineas, a great ſupply for one who has not a guinea in the world. May the great Biſhop of ſouls amply reward both him and you, for all favours conferred on

Your ſincere friend and humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER XVI.

To Mr. H.

My Dear Friend, *Glouceſter, June* 30, 1736.

GLORY! glory! glory! be aſcribed to an almighty triune GOD.—Laſt *Sunday* in the afternoon, I preached my firſt ſermon in the church of St. *Mary De Crypt*, where I was baptized, and alſo firſt received the ſacrament of the LORD's ſupper. Curioſity, as you may eaſily gueſs, drew a large congregation together upon the occaſion. The ſight at firſt a little awed me; but I was comforted with a heart-felt ſenſe of the divine preſence, and ſoon found the unſpeakable advantage of having been accuſtomed to public ſpeaking when a boy at ſchool, and of exhorting and teaching the priſoners and poor people at their private houſes, whilſt at the univerſity. By theſe means I was kept from being daunted over much. As I proceeded, I perceived the fire kindled, till at laſt, though ſo young, and amidſt a croud of thoſe, who knew me in my infant

infant childiſh days, I truſt, I was enabled to ſpeak with ſome degree of goſpel authority. Some few mocked, but moſt for the preſent ſeemed ſtruck; and I have ſince heard, that a complaint had been made to the biſhop, that I drove fifteen mad the firſt ſermon. The worthy prelate, as I am informed, wiſhed that the madneſs might not be forgotten before next *Sunday*. Before then, I hope, my ſermon upon *He that is in* CHRIST, *is a new creature*, will be compleated. Bleſſed be GOD, I now find freedom in writing. Glorious JESUS,

Unlooſe my ſtamm'ring tongue to tell
Thy love immenſe, unſearchable.

Being thus engaged, I muſt haſten to ſubſcribe myſelf, my dear Sir, Your's, &c.

G. W.

LETTER XVII.

To Mrs. H.

Dear Mrs. H. *Oxon, July 7, 1736.*

WHAT ſhall I ſay in defence of my ſeemingly ungrateful ſilence? Why, I hope, your kindneſs will accept of the reaſons I gave in Mrs. *Well*'s letter, as a ſufficient excuſe for it, nothing but thoſe, I aſſure you, being the cauſe of it. Well then, preſuming on your kind pardon, give me leave, (after all acknowledgments of gratitude for kindneſſes received) to bid you once more welcome to *Glouceſter*, and to wiſh you and Mr. *H.* with all my ſoul, the greateſt comfort, that either this or the other world can afford you. It's true, indeed, we muſt not expect much comfort here, except what reſults from a good conviction that we are in a ſafe ſtate, by being born again of the Holy Ghoſt. This, will afford us inexpreſſible ſatisfaction, even on this ſide the grave. It will give us eaſe in pain, becauſe we know, if we bear it patiently, it will end in glory. This, will make us meek and gentle under croſſes and diſappointments, becauſe we know we are taught to expect them, and that our bleſſed Maſter has gone before us in them. In ſhort, it will make us eaſy in every ſtation, becauſe we have a general promiſe, that all things ſhall work for good to them that love GOD. But ſuppoſing we were to have no pleaſure on this ſide of Heaven, yet the

thoughts of being happy, and that too for all eternity hereafter, methinks ſhould teach us to bear up under every calamity here, not only with ſubmiſſion, but a holy joy. Good GOD! the very idea of what we are to be in glory, tranſports me while I am writing. There, there, Mrs. *H.* we ſhall ſee the bleſſed JESUS, whom our ſouls have ſo eagerly thirſted after in this life, ſurrounded with glory, and attended with myriads of his holy angels, who will rejoice at our ſafe arrival to their happy manſions, and with repeated echoes welcome us to heaven. There, there, we ſhall not only ſee, but live with him and enjoy him too, not for a day, a month, a year, an age, but to all eternity. And who can tell the pleaſure, comfort, peace, joy, delight, and tranſport, a glorified ſaint will feel in the poſſeſſion of his wiſhed-for, longed-for, ever adorable, ever gracious, bleſſed, beloved, triune GOD, and that for ever? Surely the happineſs will be ſo great, that eye hath not ſeen, nor ear heard, neither can the heart of man conceive the thouſandth part thereof. And yet, great as it is, I not only wiſh, but have good hope through CHRIST, that not only you and Mr. *H.* but all my chriſtian friends, and even I myſelf through grace, ſhall one day be partakers of it. The way and means we know. "If any one, ſays CHRIST, will come after me (to glory) let him renounce himſelf." *i. e.* make his own will no principle of action, be no ſelf-pleaſer, "and take up his croſs" patiently (whether of ſickneſs or outward circumſtances, &c.) "and then let him follow me," follow me in a way of duty here, and he ſhall follow me to glory hereafter. May we all be ſuch followers of the bleſſed JESUS! And why ſhould we deſpair of becoming ſuch? What is there in CHRIST's doctrine or example but that we may all, through the aſſiſtance of the Holy Spirit, imitate him in? Suppoſe it does oblige us to be a little ſtricter than our neighbours? Suppoſe it does forbid us ſpending too much time in the ſeemingly-innocent entertainments of the age? Suppoſe it does command us to be conſtant and frequent in prayer, in watchings, faſtings, and other acts of mortification? Suppoſe it does bid us not to indulge our unruly paſſions; but to learn of CHRIST to be meek, patient, and lowly? Suppoſe it does compel us to redeem our time, to fill up every day with proper duty and devotion? Yet, what in all this, that is terrible? Has not ſuch a behavi-

our a natural tendency to make us calm, eaſy, peaceful, happy? And then, why ſhould we refuſe ſo eaſy a yoke, ſo light a burden? I am ſure the little (alas! too, too little) time I have drawn in it, I have found it not galling but healing, and the longer I bear it, the eaſier and pleaſanter it is. Let us then, Dear Mrs. *H.* chearfully take it upon us, and then

No mortal living of us all can miſs
A permanent, a ſure ſubſtantial bliſs.

Your ſincere, though very unworthy friend
and humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER XVIII.

To Mr. H.

Deareſt Sir, *Oxon, Oct.* 14, 1736.

I Was agreeably detained, as you was pleaſed to term it, laſt *Tueſday*, in reading your kind letter, and had I not been aſſiſted by the grace of GOD to receive every thing with an equal, undiſturbed mind, perhaps the contents of it might have given me ſome ſmall uneaſineſs. But religion quite changes the nature of man, and makes us to receive all the diſpenſations of providence with reſignation and thankfulneſs. Of this, deareſt Sir, I hope you have had an experimental proof, in bearing up with courage and reſolution under thoſe acute pains the Almighty was pleaſed to viſit you with laſt *Sunday*, and with which, perhaps, his infinite wiſdom and goodneſs may continue to viſit you longer. My dear friend (if I miſtake not) uſed to ſay, he was afraid GOD did not love him, becauſe he did not chaſten him. Behold then, now the hand of the LORD is upon you, not ſo much to puniſh, as to purify your ſoul. Not in anger but in love. Pray therefore in your eaſy intervals, that you may know, wherefore the LORD contendeth with you, and that you may not come cankered out of the furnace of affliction. Offer up every groan, every ſigh, in the name of your dying, riſen Redeemer, and doubt not, but they will be as prevalent as ſet times of prayer. Our being enabled to pray when ſickneſs comes on us, doubtleſs, is to teach us the neceſſity of praying always, when we are in health. But, dear Mr. *H.* wants no ſuch leſſons, or excitements, I

believe, to prayer. Methinks I could bear some of your pain for you, if that would give you comfort. But as it is impossible, O let me never cease most earnestly to beseech my heavenly Father, that he would sanctify this his fatherly correction to you, and that the sense of your weakness may add strength to your faith, and seriousness to your repentance. Poor Mr. *Pauncefoot*, I find, is visited in a far more grievous manner. Dear good man, surely the time of his dissolution (I should say of his coronation) draweth near, See, dear Mr. *H.* through what tribulations we must enter into glory. Be pleased to give my hearty love and thanks to him for his last kind letter. Beg him not to cease praying for me, unworthy as I am. And, I hope, I shall not be wanting in returning his kindness in the same manner. But alas, I have nothing to depend on, but the merits of a crucified Redeemer to have my poor petitions answered. But does dear Mrs. *H.* complain of deadness and coldness in devotion? Alas poor woman! let her not be disheartened. This is a complaint, which all the children of GOD have made. And we must take a great deal of pains with our hearts, must pray often and long, before we shall be able to pray well. And the only way I can think of, to shame ourselves out of deadness in prayer, is to censure and condemn, to humble and bewail ourselves for it every time we go upon our knees, at least every time we solemnly retire to converse with GOD. But why does dear Mrs. *H.* so much as think of omitting but once the receiving of the holy sacrament? Or if satan does put such thoughts in her head, why does not she repel them with the utmost abhorrence? Alas! should the devil gain his point here, would not the ridiculing world say, Mrs. *H.* began to build, but had not wherewith to finish. I have seen too many fatal instances of the inexpressible danger and sad consequences of leaving off any one means of grace, not to encourage Mrs. *H.* stedfastly to persevere in the good way she has begun; and would exhort her, in the name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, to labour daily to mortify and subdue her corruptions, not wilfully to indulge herself in any ill habit, custom, or temper, and then assure herself, one time or another, CHRIST will be made known unto her in breaking of bread. But what shall I say, dear Sir, about Mr.

W. &c. &c.? Alas! I find, they are all in the gall of bitterneſs, in the very bondage of iniquity, and all I can do, is to pity and pray for them. I find more and more, that where true religion is wanting, there is confuſion and every evil work. But why is my honoured mother ſo ſolicitous about a few paultry things, that will quickly periſh? Why will ſhe not come and ſee her youngeſt ſon, who will endeavour to be a *Joſeph* to her, before ſhe dies? What makes my dear friend and his kind wife, give me another invitation to *Glouceſter*? Alas! have I not wearied and been expenſive enough to you already? I hope to ſend you, in a ſhort time, two guineas towards paying for Mr. *Henry*'s Expoſition. I wiſh I could ſpare more, but time will bring all things to paſs. You ſee what a large letter I have written to you to make amends for the many ſhort ones, I have ſent lately. Though I believe you may ſay of mine, the quite contrary to what I ſay of yours; the ſhorter the better. My due reſpects to all friends, and believe me to be, in the utmoſt ſincerity, Deareſt Sir,

Your and Mrs. *H.*'s affectionate friend and humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER XIX.

To the Same.

Deareſt Sir, *Oxon, Nov.* 5, 1736.

HEREWITH I have ſent you ſeven pounds to pay for Mr. *Henry*'s Commentary. Dear Eſqr. *Thorold* lately made me a preſent of ten guineas, ſo that now (for ever bleſſed be the divine goodneſs) I can ſend you more than I thought for. In time, I hope to pay the apothecary's bill. If I forget your favours, I ſhall alſo forget my GOD. Say nothing of your receiving this money, only give thanks, give hearty thanks to our good and gracious GOD for his infinite, unmerited mercy to me, the vileſt of the ſons of men. Oh, dear Sir, may ſuch inſtances of free grace ſtrengthen your faith, and make you put your ſole truſt and confidence in the LORD your GOD. For he hath ſaid, *I will never leave thee nor forſake thee.* Have not you experienced his loving kindneſs and mercy, in ſupporting you under your ſickneſs? Methinks I feel you have. May you experience it more and more! Did not CHRIST give you the meeting laſt *Sunday*? I hope he did,

nay I am sure he did, if our hearts were duly prepared by faith and repentance to receive him; but without an entire resignation of ourselves to GOD, and a thorough renunciation of all worldly and corrupt affections, all GOD's ordinances will profit nothing. Your reverend brother's kind letter I hope to answer soon, and to send him also a small parcel of books. The good LORD sanctify them to his own glory, and the good of souls. I find dear Mr. *Pauncefoot* is still afflicted, but bid him be of good cheer. In his latter end he may yet greatly increase. When we are weak, then are we strong. There is hope concerning his legacy. Let us in the mean while continue instant in prayer in behalf of this our dear and worthy friend. Good man! salute him kindly in my name. Beg his prayers for my unworthy self, and tell him I will write as soon as possible. The gospel flourishes at *Oxon*. Our society here, blessed be GOD, goes on well. I received the papers and thank you. How does dear Mrs. *H.*? The divine blessing rest on you both. My prayer night and day is, that you may be saved. Salute all friends by name. From Dearest Sir,

Your unworthy friend and humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER XX.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Bristol, Feb.* 10, 1737.

WHAT shall I say? I cannot be with you this week. Methinks, it would be almost sinful to leave *Bristol* at this critical juncture, there being now a prospect of making a very considerable collection for the poor *Americans*. The whole city seems to be alarmed. Churches are as full week days, as they use to be on *Sundays*, and on *Sundays* so full, that many, very many are obliged to go away, because they cannot come in. Oh pray, dear Mr. *H.* that GOD would always keep me humble, and fully convinced that I am nothing without him, and that all the good which is done upon earth, GOD doth it himself. Quakers, baptists, presbyterians, &c. all come to hear the word preached. Sanctify it, holy Father, to thy own glory and thy people's good! I hope

hope to be with you without fail on *Tuesday* morning. What letters you have, pray send to, Dear Sir,

Your unworthy friend, &c.

G. W.

LETTER XXI.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Stonehouse, April* 26, 1737.

BE pleased to send the *Poor Country Curate*, and *Flavel's Husbandry Spiritualized.* I know not what to do for want of a clock in the house. How shall I know, how my precious time passes away? You'll mind your promise to come. Here are lovely, solitary, and pleasant walks to commune with your own heart, and search out your spirit. Has Mr. *Pauncefoot* wrote to me? My dear friend *Stratford*'s death affects me still. Methinks I long to be above, employed as he is. But alas, I am not ripe for glory; if I was, my heavenly Father would gather me into his garner. Farewell, Dear Sir; remember I am alone, and pray accordingly for

Your sincere, though weak friend,

G. W.

LETTER XXII.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Stonehouse, May* 4, 1737.

WHY does not Mr. *H.* let me hear from or see him? Surely no evil has befallen either him or his family in their way to eternity. Why then tarry their horses? Why are they so long in coming to visit the country, which now looks like a second paradise, and which, to me, seems the pleasantest place I ever was in, through all my life? Surely I can never be thankful enough for being sent hither; people flock to hear the word of GOD from the neighbouring villages, as well as our own. They gladly receive me into their houses, and I have no let or hindrance to my ministerial business; and what is still better, GOD has opened my heart, and enabled me to finish a sermon on "Remember thy Creator, &c."—If you will come on *Sunday* you may hear it perhaps. — Your sister-in-law talks of being here again on *Friday*; but I believe

lieve it will be more agreeable, if you chuſe another opportunity, that we may have our own converſation. I hope that dear Mrs. *H.* took nothing ill, that was in my laſt. I meant it well, and wrapt up the pill in as much ſugar as I could. My hearty love to her and Miſs *J.* Poor Mr. *M.* and Mr. *W.* will ſet out to morrow, I ſuppoſe. The LORD proſper them and be with them wherever they go, and make them good ſoldiers of JESUS CHRIST, and finally bring them and us to his heavenly kingdom! So wiſhes, ſo prays,

Your's affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER XXIII.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Stonehouſe, May* 11, 1737.

I Thank you for your laſt, and bleſs GOD that you got home ſafe: your obſervations on the weather were pertinent and ſpiritual. Honeſt *James* and I, were out in the midſt of the lightning, and never were more delighted in our lives. May we be as well pleaſed, when the Son of GOD cometh to judgment. What! no news from your brother? Well, *Stonehouſe* people and I agree better and better. I believe we ſhall part weeping. Had I time I would now write to Miſs *J.* but I muſt away among my flock, and ſo deny myſelf that pleaſure till another opportunity is given to, Dear Sir,

Your ſincere friend and humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER XXIV.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Briſtol, May* 24, 1737.

BY the particular good providence of GOD, I got ſafe to *Briſtol* yeſterday by ten in the morning, and was received (unworthy as I am) with the utmoſt civility and kindneſs. I have learnt from hence the benefit of ſetting out on our journey to eternity betimes, and what a pleaſing reflection it will be to look back, though not to depend, on one's paſt life, and find a great deal of work done in a little time. The people here are exceeding kindly affected towards me; and,

and, I hope, I have seen the effects of my doctrine in the reformation of some of their lives. Remember me always in your prayers. Accept my hearty thanks for all favours, and believe me to be,

Ever your's,

G. W.

LETTER XXV.

To Mrs. H.

Dear Mrs. H. *Oxon, July* 14, 1737.

IF you remember, I promised you a long and particular letter when I was at *Gloucester*, and nothing hinders but I may now perform it. Permit me then first, to begin this, as I would all my letters, with thanks to you and kind Mr. *H.* for your inexpressible favours conferred on the most unworthy of my master's servants; and, withall, to assure you, how incessantly I pray, that the GOD of all grace and mercy, for the sake of his dear Son JESUS CHRIST, would reward you in spirituals, for what you have done to me in temporals, and feed your soul with his heavenly graces, as plentifully as you have fed my body with nourishing food. But as, in all probability, this will be the last letter I shall write to dear Mrs. *H.* before I sail, what can I fill the remainder with better, than by exhorting you, to lay aside every weight, particularly the sin that does most easily beset you, and so run with patience the race set before you. I say, the sin that most easily besets; for unless we lay the ax to the root, unless we sincerely resolve in the strength of JESUS CHRIST to subdue our favourite, our darling passion, and spare not one *Agag*, though ever so engaging, ever so beautiful, all our other sacrifices will avail us nothing. Suppose therefore, for instance, PASSION be our greatest foible. A sincere person will never cease night or day, till he is made meek and lowly in heart. But if it be asked, how he shall do this? I answer, *first*, let him consider how odious it is in the sight of GOD, and how contrary to the lamb-like meekness of the holy JESUS. *Secondly*, Let him reflect how troublesome it must be to others, (for alas what unnecessary disorders, what needless troubles doth the passionate person occasion to all that are round about him?)

him?) *Thirdly*, Let him consider how exceeding hurtful and unpleasant it is to himself; how it ruffles and discomposes his mind; unfits him for every holy duty, and in short makes him a torment to himself and a burden to others. Well, after he has thus seen the deformity of his darling passion, the next enquiry must be, how to get the mastery over it. The first and grand thing, is to get a true and lively faith in CHRIST JESUS, seeking for it by earnest prayer. To this, we must have recourse in all our struggles; for it's GOD alone, who can subdue and govern the unruly wills of sinful men, and it is his grace which alone can enable us to mortify our corrupt passions. But then we must take care not to rest in general petitions for conquering this or that corruption; but must descend to particulars. For instance, supposing I am angry with a servant or husband without a cause; What must I do? Why, take the very first opportunity of retiring from the world, and after having bewailed my being angry, earnestly beseech the LORD of all power and might to enable me to withstand such and such a provocation for the future, and notwithstanding I should fail again and again in the very same instance, yet I would again and again renew my petitions to the throne of grace, and never cease praying and striving, till instead of a blind, perverse, troublesome passion, I had the lovely, calm, and delightful grace of meekness and humility planted in its room. Now would dear Mrs. *H.* take some such method as this (for I suppose by this time, she guesses to whom all this points) I dare say, she would quickly find as much difference in herself as there is between a wise man and an idiot.—And that she may both begin and succeed in this method, is the earnest prayer of, Dear Mrs. *H.*

Your affectionate friend, &c.

G. W.

LETTER XXVI.

To Mr. H.

My Dear Friend, *London, Sept.* 28, 1737.

I Thank you for your last kind letter and kinder wishes. May they be turned into prayers, and heard at the throne of grace. Blessed be GOD for your new correspondence with our *Oxford* friends. I hope you will be instrumental to build

each

each other up in the knowledge and fear of our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. GOD ſtill works powerfully here. People flock more than ever, and ſhew the ſincerity of their hearts by giving liberally to the poor. I have preached four charity ſermons within this little while, and the collections were larger than ever were known. Not unto me, O LORD, not unto me; but unto thy Name be the glory and praiſe thereof! I am glad, ſince its the divine will, that my brother is coming up, though my ability as to temporals you know is ſmall. But I have an all-ſufficient GOD to apply to in all emergencies. I am ſorry for for my brother's loſs; but I fear he muſt have greater, before he is awakened out of his ſpiritual lethargy. GOD ſanctify all his diſpenſations to him. I know not why we go not to *Georgia*; but there is no likelihood of it yet, as I ſee. Friends univerſally diſſuade me from going by myſelf; but I hope it will not be long now, before we ſhall launch into the deep. To-night I preach again at *Bow* church, before the religious ſocieties. GOD opens my heart to compoſe freely. O praiſe him, dear Mr. *H.* for this and all his other mercies, conferred on, Dear Sir,

Your and Mrs. *H.*'s affectionate friend,

G. W.

LETTER XXVII.

To the Same.

Deareſt Sir, *London, Oct.* 25, 1737.

MULTIPLICITY of buſineſs prevented my writing to you before. But though you have not heard from me by letter, yet you may aſſure yourſelf, dear Sir, I never forget mentioning you in my prayers. GOD knows that I and ſome other friends intercede moſt fervently for you, and very frequently even at midnight. May GOD, for CHRIST's ſake, hear and anſwer them! We ſail not for *Georgia* this month. I ſuppoſe you have heard of my *mighty deeds*, falſely ſo called, by reading the news-papers; for I find ſome back-friend has publiſhed abroad my preaching four times in a day; but I beſeech Mr. *Raikes*, the printer, never to put me into his news upon any ſuch account again, for it is quite contrary to my inclinations and poſitive orders. GOD ſtill

works

works here. The collections for the charity schools, in all the churches where I preach, are very large. All *London* is alarmed. Many youths here sincerely love our LORD JESUS CHRIST; and thousands, I hope, are quickened, strengthened, and confirmed by the word preached. I was never in better health, and never composed more freely. O praise the LORD, dear Sir, and pray that I may not be self-sufficient but humble. I am glad dear Mrs. *H.* is recovered. May she, with *Peter*'s wife's mother, arise and minister to JESUS CHRIST. GOD reward her for all her works and labours of love. Blessed be GOD my hands are full of business. A third edition of my sermon on regeneration is coming out. Write to me quickly, accept my hearty thanks and love, and expect to hear again from, Dear Sir,

Ever your's,

G. W.

LETTER XXVIII.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Nov.* 14, 1737.

I Heartily thank you for your last, and having a few moments, sit down to answer it. Let not my friends trouble me with temporal offers, I shall accept (GOD assisting me) of no place this side *Jordan*. We embark for *Georgia* in about three weeks or a month at farthest. You wish me good luck in the name of the LORD. I hope to send to you again before I sail. Mr. *M——n* is going amongst the colliers again at *Bristol*, and a church, I hope, will be built for them. Prosper, O LORD, the work of his hands upon him!—Mrs. *Farmer*, whenever my circumstances will admit, shall be paid all that is due to her on my mother's account. GOD still works more and more by my unworthy ministry. Last week, save one, I preached ten times in different churches; and the last week seven; and yesterday four times, and read prayers twice, though I slept not above an hour the night before, which was spent in religious conversation, and in interceding for you, Mrs. *H.*, good Mr. *Pauncefoot*, &c. I now begin to preach charity sermons twice or thrice a week, besides two or three on *Sundays*, and sixty

or

or ſeventy pounds are collected weekly for the poor children. Thouſands would come in to hear, but cannot. This night I preached a funeral ſermon before a moſt crouded audience, and GOD, I believe, worked upon the people's hearts. O pray for me ſtill, *dear Sir*, that I may renew my ſtrength, that I may walk and not be weary, run and not be faint. Admire GOD's free grace in CHRIST JESUS, and let his goodneſs to me, the worſt of ſinners, ſtrengthen your faith, and make you never to deſpair of mercy. Farewell. My love to all, and am, Dear Sir, in ſincerity,

Your friend, &c.

G. W.

LETTER XXIX.

To Mrs. H.

Dear Mrs. H. *London, Dec.* 23, 1737.

ONCE more I ſend you a line. Nothing but an exceſs of buſineſs, ſhould have prevented me writing to you oftner. Your favours, I hope, will never be forgotten, and never ceaſe to be mentioned before the throne of grace. GOD only knows, how earneſtly I have recommended you and your's to his never-failing mercy. On *Wedneſday* night eighteen of us continued all night in praiſes, and praying for you and our other friends. I know, that paſſion is the ſin, which moſt eaſily beſets you, and therefore I always pray that you may have grace given you to conquer it, and to learn of JESUS CHRIST to be meek and lowly in heart. Then, and not till then, you will find reſt to your ſoul. Pardon me, *dear Mrs. H.* for being thus free. Your kindneſs compels me to it. Had I not a ſincere regard for you, I ſhould not expreſs myſelf thus. Beſides, it's the laſt time, perhaps, I ſhall write to you in this world, and therefore would have this letter contain ſome inſtructive hints. We ſail, GOD willing, next week. Great things have been done for us here. Perhaps upwards of a thouſand pounds have been collected for the poor, and the charity ſchools, and I have preached above an hundred times, ſince I have been here. A viſible alteration is made alſo in hundreds. Laſt *Sunday* at ſix in the morning, when I gave my farewell, the whole church was drowned in tears: they wept and cried aloud, as a mother weepeth

weepeth for her firſt born. Since that, there is no end of perſons coming and weeping, telling me what GOD has done for their ſouls: others again beg little books, and deſire me to write their names in them. The time would fail me, was I to relate how many have been awakened, and how many pray for me. The great day will diſcover all. In the mean while, I beſeech you Mrs. *H.* by the mercies of GOD to pray, that the goodneſs of GOD may make me humble. As yet the divine ſtrength has been magnified in my weakneſs. Many have oppoſed, but in vain. GOD's power conquers all. I am now going as *Abraham* did, not knowing whither I go; but I commit myſelf to the guidance of GOD's good providence and ſpirit. He that has and doth, will deliver me out of all my troubles. I only wiſh, I could debaſe myſelf low enough, that I might be more fitted for the high and lofty one who inhabiteth eternity, to work by. I am a proud, imperious, ſinful worm; but God, I hope, in time, will conform me to the image of his dear Son. He has begun (for ever adored be his free grace), and I truſt, he will finiſh his good work in me. Out of the money that GOD has ſent me, I will pay all the debts I can. I have ſent ſome of it to Mrs. *Wells*, with particular orders how to be diſpoſed of; two guineas are for Mrs. *Farmer* towards the debt due to her from my mother. My farewell ſermon will be publiſhed ſhortly, with two or three more. Dear Mrs. *H.* farewell. GOD reward you and your's for all your works of faith and labours of love, and grant we may ſo believe, and ſo live here, as to meet in eternal glory hereafter,

Ever your's,

G. W.

LETTER XXX.

To Mr. H.

Dear Sir, *Margate, Jan.* 9, 1738.

HITHER the good providence of God has ſafely brought us; our ſhip caſt anchor near this town, and my dear fellow-traveller and I came on ſhore (to our great comfort) to buy ſome things we wanted. We have been moſt courteouſly treated by the curate of the place, and had ſome chriſtian converſation. The winds and ſtorms are bluſtering about

about our ears, and teaching us leſſons of obedience to him, whom winds and ſtorms obey. GOD give us grace to learn them. Mr. *B.* can inform you, what other particulars have happened to us, ſince we left you; I need only add, that the divine goodneſs attends us wherever we go. Oh dear Sir! who would but leave their few ragged, tattered nets to follow JESUS CHRIST? Who would but follow the Lamb whereſoever he ſhall be pleaſed to lead? Pray, *dear Sir*, that I may always do ſo, and then, I am ſure, GOD will never leave or forſake me. You ſee, dear Sir, I have anſwered your kind letter much ſooner than expectation, in order to expreſs how ſincerely I value your friendſhip, though you differ from me in ſome outward modes. Indeed, Sir, I hope the favours I have received from you and others of your chriſtian brethren, will never go out of my mind; but I ſhall often plead them (as I have done already) at the throne of grace. I would willingly be of ſo catholic a ſpirit, as to love the image of my divine maſter, wherever I ſee it: I am far from thinking GOD's grace is confined to any ſet of men whatſoever: no, I know the partition-wall is now broken down, and that JESUS CHRIST came to redeem people out of all nations and languages and tongues; and therefore his benefits are not to be confined to this or that particular ſet of profeſſors. I only wiſh, that I may have grace given me to preach the truth, as it is in JESUS; and then, come what will, I hope I ſhall (as I do, bleſſed be GOD) rejoice.

You know, Sir, what a deſign I am going upon, and what a ſtripling I am for ſo great a work; but I ſtand forth as *David* againſt *Goliah* in the name of the LORD of HOSTS, and I doubt not, but he that has and doth, will ſtill deliver unto the end. GOD give me a deep humility, a well-guided zeal, a burning love, and a ſingle eye, and then let men or devils do their worſt.—Dear Sir, I could write more, but nature calls for reſt. Be pleaſed to give my hearty love to all you and I know, and acquaint them, how ſafe I am here; for otherwiſe the tempeſtuous night might put them and others in pain for, *Dear Sir*,

Your unworthy, though affectionate friend,

G. W.

LETTER XXXI.

To Mrs. H.

Dear Mrs. H. *Deal, Jan.* 11, 1738.

HITHER has God safely brought us. Pray give thanks on my behalf. We have had two little storms, the one we escaped by being at *Margate*, the other we were enabled to bear manfully, and to pray for you and yours on open deck in the midst of it. All the officers are exceeding civil. The captain gives me the free use of his cabin, and some impression is made on the soldiers. I read prayers and preach twice every day, and, would you think it, the very soldiers stand out to say their catechism. Oh that they may be soldiers of JESUS CHRIST. God gives me great joy, and excites me to adore him more and more, when I behold his wonders in the deep. I am but a fresh-water sailor; but GOD's strength will be magnified in my weakness, and I verily believe we shall arrive at the haven, where we wou'd be. Oh that we may all so pass thro' the waves of this troublesome world, that at last we may arrive at the port of everlasting rest! Expect to hear from me at *Gibraltar*, and assure yourself your favours shall never be forgotten by

Your sincere friend,

G. W.

LETTER XXXII.

To Mr. ———.

Deal, Jan. 21, 1738.

SUPPOSE I answer *dear Mr.* —— before I reach *Georgia*, Will he be angry? I fancy not. I had a mind to write to you again, before I received yours. For as you have been so liberal in your presents, it would be unpardonable in me, was I niggardly in my letters. No, my dear friend, I hope I never shall cease praying for you and yours, so long as I live. Hitherto I have not. I was praying for you just as I received yours: I am glad to hear you prayed before you wrote to me. Surely GOD will bless such a correspondence. O my friend, let us still wrestle with God, that we may be stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the LORD. For it is perseverance crowns our labours. *He, and*

He

He only can be saved. The world, the flesh and the devil are three such potent enemies, that we must strive, we must persevere, if we will gain a conquest. Strive then; let us, my dear friend, strive as persons striving for eternity. Let us abstain from all appearance of evil, and avoid all company, that doth not directly tend to the promoting our spiritual welfare. Whether one of the societies you frequent, my dear friend, has a tendency that way, I leave you to judge. I think I have heard you say, it keeps you from family and secret prayer. If that is not a sufficient reason for absenting from it, I'll say no more. I believe you to be sincere, and therefore, if you consult GOD by prayer and reading his word, your way will be made clear before you. I only add, that I could wish, instead of frequenting *that*, you would set up another society of a quite contrary nature on the same night of the week. I know Mr. —— had some such design on foot, and desired me to mention it. I wish you good success in this and every pious undertaking in the name of the LORD. May GOD reward you for all your kindnesses, and make you to abound in every good word and work! may you walk by faith and not by sight; and tho' you are in the world, may you not be of it! I preach here, GOD willing, to-morrow; there's likely to be a great congregation. O pray, that they may not be sent away empty, but converted by, dear *Mr.*——,

Your affectionate friend,

G. W.

LETTER XXXIII.

Dear Sir, *Deal, Jan.* 25, 1738.

I Am ashamed of my ingratitude in not writing to you before; but you'll not wonder I am ungrateful to my friends, when I tell you I am ungrateful to my GOD. However, as I always remark'd you for your charity, I know you will imitate Him you so resemble, and upon my promise of amendment for the future, will pardon what is past. Oh dear Sir, how shall I express my gratitude to dear ——? But above all, what return shall I make to my ever-blessed REDEEMER for all the favours he hath bestowed upon me? Help, I entreat you, help me to be thankful, and as you abound in prayer, abound in praises. I find my heart too backward

to this divine exercise. I am ready enough to ask for mercies, but alas! how slow to return thanks! Indeed sometimes GOD touches me from above, and my heart, hard as it is, is melted down and quite overcome with the sense of his free grace in CHRIST JESUS towards me. But I want always to go on my way rejoicing; I want the heart of a seraphim;

I want to sing as loud as they,
Who shine above in endless day.

I could almost say more than they, and why should I not return angelic thanks? But my heart is as yet unhumbled, I see not what I am, what I deserve, and therefore set not a due value on the divine mercies. Pray therefore, *dear Mr.*——, that I may receive my sight, that my eyes may be opened, and that seeing what GOD hath done for me, I may break out into songs of praise, and by such heart-transforming divine exercises be gradually trained up for eternal uninterrupted communion with that heavenly choir, who cease not chanting forth day and night hallelujahs to Him that sitteth upon the throne and to the Lamb for ever. *Dear Mr.*—, I can relate to you fresh matter for praise and thanksgiving; a divine fire seems to be kindling in *Deal*. I preached on *Sunday*, and this day. The inhabitants are quite affectionate, and so desirous to hear the word, at my private lodgings, as well as at public churches, that I am obliged to divide them into two companies. And GOD, blessed be his free grace in CHRIST JESUS, helps me through. I suppose my dear friend has heard how affairs go on shipboard. I need only add, that GOD makes his power to be known among those that sail with me, and there are great hopes of the captain's conversion. O pray, that he may not be an almost, but an altogether christian. Dear Mr. ——, farewell. It's late, and many other friends must have a line to-night. May GOD reward you for all kindnesses, and keep you stedfast unto the end. Pray return my hearty thanks to all your Brethren; tell them I sincerely pray for their growth and perseverance in holiness, and am, dear Mr, ———,

Your affectionate, tho' unworthy friend
and servant in CHRIST JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER XXXIV.

Dear Mr.——— *Gibraltar Harbour Feb.* 24, 1738.

I Bleſs GOD for inclining your heart to take my advice. I know it was intended well, and I hope proceeded from the ſpirit of God. The many fatal conſequences I have daily ſeen, proceeding from converſing with lukewarm chriſtians, makes me jealous of my dear friends, leſt they ſhould be infected by them; and the great tendency I find in my own heart to catch every infection, makes me to reſolve for myſelf, and to put others on reſolving to keep no ſet company but with religious perſons. I hope by this time I may wiſh you joy of ſettling a new ſociety with *Meſſrs.* ——; and I doubt not but your hearts have already burnt within you, whilſt you talked to one another of the ſcriptures of truth. I am ſure there is ſcarce a night has paſſed over my head but I have wreſtled with GOD for you, and prayed that he would proſper this work of your hands upon you. My hearty deſire and daily petition at the throne of grace is, that you may be ſaved; and tho' I know not much of your dear wife's temper, yet I pray, that ſhe may be meek and lowly in heart, not eaſily provoked, nor anſwer unneceſſarily again. I pray, that you both may walk as *Zachary* and *Elizabeth* did before the LORD blameleſs, that you may love one another, as CHRIST and the church, and ſee your children like olive-branches round about your table. I pray, that you may perſevere in the good way you have begun, that you may abſtain from all appearance of evil, and dare to be exemplarily good. I pray, that you may practice an univerſal ſelf-denial, and perfect holineſs in the fear of God. I could ſay much more, but muſt away to *Gibraltar*; one of the *Majors* of the regiments has ſent for me, having provided a lodging at a merchant's houſe unknown to me. Oh admire GOD's goodneſs! Accept my thanks and love, and believe me to be, more than words can expreſs,

Your affectionate friend in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER XXXV.

To Mr. ——.

Dear Mr. ——, *Gibraltar, Feb.* 25, 1738.

I Should think myſelf unworthy of your friendſhip, did I not ſend you a line now GOD has brought me in ſafety hither. I know you will give thanks, and therefore, GOD forbid I ſhould ſin againſt the LORD in not informing you of it.—Your prayers have already been heard; for GOD (ever adored be his free grace in CHRIST JESUS) hath been with us of a truth. He hath led us through the ſea, as through a wilderneſs, and brought us to a haven, where I am honoured with many honours.—Any one that knows *Gibraltar* would be apt to ſay, Can any good come out from thence? Yes, I aſſure you, there may; for there are ſome that are not aſhamed of the goſpel of CHRIST. About ſix o'clock this morning I went to the church, where was aſſembled a number of decent ſoldiers praying and ſinging pſalms to CHRIST as GOD. They meet conſtantly three times a day, and I intend, GOD willing, henceforward to meet them. For my delight is in the ſaints who are in the earth, and thoſe that excel in virtue. I have talked with ſome of them, and, bleſſed be GOD, can find the marks of the new birth in them. They pray without ceaſing, have overcome the world, hate ſin, as ſin, love their enemies and one another. They glory in the croſs of CHRIST, and rejoice that they are accounted worthy to ſuffer ſhame for the ſake of CHRIST. O, who would but travel to ſee how the ſpirit of GOD is moving on the faces of poor ſinners ſouls up and down the world! GOD, I find, has a people every where; CHRIST has a flock, though but a little flock, in all places.—GOD be praiſed, that we are of this flock, and that it will be our Father's good pleaſure to give us the kingdom!—*Gibraltar* is bleſſed with a governor, who hath not abſented himſelf from public worſhip, unleſs when he was ſick, for theſe ſeven years, and yet is very moderate towards the diſſenters. Both conformiſts and nonconformiſts perform public worſhip, though at different times of the day, in the ſame place: They alſo have a religious ſociety. The good LORD proſper this work of their hands upon them. Whenever we go away, may we leave a bleſſing behind us. He is a prayer-hearing GOD.—

Yeſterday

Yesterday a major of one of the regiments, unknown to me, took two handsome rooms, and sent for me from on board, desiring me to lodge in them; and I find the people of the house fear GOD.—"When I sent you without scrip or shoe, lacked you any thing?" said our LORD. They said nothing. —O, dear Mr. ———, I beseech you abound in thanksgiving, and pray that all these blessings may humble my proud heart, and make me willing to follow the Lamb whithersoever he shall lead me. Assure yourself, that you and all your christian friends are constantly prayed for by, dear Sir,

Your's most affectionately in the LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER XXXVI.

Dear Sir, *Gibraltar, Feb.* 27, 1738.

EVER since I left *Gravesend*, I remember the fulness of your heart. I have been a constant petitioner at the throne of grace for you, and intended writing to you before, but was lett hitherto. However, GOD has now brought me safe to *Gibraltar*, and as I have time, I should think myself inexcusable, did I not send a line to dear Mr. ———, to assure him, I forgot not his tears, and wish him to be not only an almost, but an altogether christian. Dear Sir, you are young and in the bloom of youth, and it would rejoice my heart to see you triumph over the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life, and to become a poor despised servant of JESUS CHRIST. Others, indeed, may wish you wealth, may wish you pomp and grandeur; but believe me, my dear friend, these will not, these cannot, make you happy: No, nothing but GOD can satisfy the heart of man; nothing but an assurance, that we are born again, that we are members of CHRIST, that we are united to him by one and the same spirit with which he himself was actuated. Without this, if we were to have our appetites regaled with the richest dainties, be cloathed with purple and fine linen, and fare sumptuously every day, yet the hand-writing upon the wall, the consideration, that all these things are quickly to be taken away, would make our visage to change, and our knees, like *Belshazzar*'s, to smite one against another. Strive then, my dear friend, to get the

ſpirit of CHRIST, who will keep cloſe to you, when all other comforts fail; will make you happy here, and unſpeakably happy hereafter.—Never fear the contempt you will meet with; yet a little while, and they that call you fool, will call themſelves ſo, and curſe that worldly wiſdom, which tempted them to evade the croſs of CHRIST. Strange! that any one ſhould let a little reproach deprive them of an eternal crown! LORD, what is man! How blind as to the knowledge of his true intereſt! How backward in the purſuit of his eternal good! O, dear Mr. ———, let us not be of the number of thoſe, who deſire the honour that cometh of man; but be content with that which cometh from GOD. In a ſhort time, we ſhall have praiſe enough. Heaven will echo with the applauſe that ſhall be given to the true followers of the Lamb, and then you will ſee how ſincerely I was, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER XXXVII.

To Mrs. H.

Dear Mrs. H. *At Sea, April* 14, 1738.

THOUGH through exceſs of buſineſs, and the ſhortneſs of the time, that was allotted me, I wrote but a few lines to you from *Gibraltar*, yet, what hinders, but that I may ſend you a longer letter now? It's true we are now near a thouſand miles from *Georgia*; but as I ſhall have an opportunity of ſending immediately on our arrival, I chuſe to take time by the forelock, and embrace the firſt opportunity of acknowledging my obligations to dear Mrs. *H.* and her huſband; for whom I pray withour ceaſing. Your paſt favours are ſeldom out of my mind; I plead them daily before GOD in prayer, and hope, if it is ever in my power, I ſhall imitate the example of pious *David* in yeſterday evening's firſt leſſon, and requite my friends, particularly dear Mrs. *H.* and her ſpouſe, for the kindneſſes they have ſhewn me. However, ſuppoſing this ſhould not happen, they will in no-wiſe loſe their reward. But I know you do not care I ſhould dwell on this. You want to be informed, how GOD has dealt with me ſince I left *Gibraltar*? Exceeding graciouſly indeed. He has comforted

forted me on every occaſion, moſt remarkably bleſſed my unworthy miniſtry on board the ſhip, ſent us moſt delightful weather, and made us to ride as it were on the wings of the wind. We live in perfect love and harmony one with another. I know but little difference between ſea and land, and have great reaſon to bleſs GOD for ſending me abroad. A grievous ſickneſs has been ſent amongſt us, by which moſt of the ſhip have been chaſtened and corrected but only two given over unto death; and GOD hath been ſo good to me, that, except for a little time after we ſailed from *Gibraltar*, I have been in perfect health, and now GOD ſatisfieth my mouth with good things, making me ſtrong and lively as a young eagle. I have nothing to diſturb my joy in GOD, but the diſorder of my paſſions. Were theſe once brought into a proper ſubjection to divine grace, O well would it be with me, and happy ſhould I be. But ſo long as I am angry for trifles, and throw myſelf into needleſs diſorders, ſo long muſt my heart be like the troubled ſea, ſo long conſequently muſt I be unhappy. Pray therefore, dear Mrs. *H.* that I may lay the ax of mortification to the root of my moſt darling corruptions, and ſince I have but little, if any thing, to diſturb me without, O pray that I may meet with no diſturbance from myſelf within. The farther particulars of my voyage, you will ſee in my journal, which I have ſent to Mr. *Hutton*, and for the bleſſings contained therein, I beſeech you to return GOD moſt humble and hearty thanks. About *Chriſtmas* next, GOD willing, I purpoſe to come to *England* to take prieſts orders, and to return as ſoon as poſſible to *Georgia*. In the mean while, dear Mrs. *H.* let us ſtrive to enter in at the ſtrait gate, that we may be chriſtians indeed, and know what it is truly to be born again from above, and to be renewed by the ſpirit in our minds. Remember me moſt affectionately to all friends. I am,

Your's, &c.

G. W.

LETTER XXXVIII.

To Mr. ——.

Dear Mr. ——, *On board the Whitaker, April 17, 1738.*

TO aſſure you I do not forget you, I write to you, as yet, eight hundred miles off ſhore. Your honeſt heart has won

won my affections. I make mention of you and your's continually at the throne of grace in my prayers, and shall have no greater pleasure than to hear you walk in the truth. In your last, I think you said, you would desist from frequenting any other societies, but what immediately tended to the promoting of true religion, and ere now, I doubt not but you have seen the benefit of it. I have often pleased myself with the hopes, that you, dear Mr. ———, had set up another society among yourselves, and often have I thought, I felt the benefit of your prayers; for GOD hath blessed me exceedingly, and brought us on our way rejoicing; and has shewn me, that he doth not send me abroad in vain.—How GOD will deal with me at *Savannah*, I know not; however, let my friends be always lifting up their hands in intercession, and then our spiritual *Amalek* will not prevail. Hitherto I have been made to go on from conquering to conquer. GOD gives me a chearful spirit, and crowns my feeble labours with success. And why should I despair of future assistance? Are not these earnests of future mercies? And may I not expect, when I am duly prepared, to see greater things than these? Cry therefore mightily unto the LORD, that I may be humble, and that I may tremble at his word, and then he will delight to honour me. I live in hopes of seeing you and your wife again (growing in grace) in *England*. You told me, she desired I would draw her picture; but alas! she has applied to an improper limner. However, though I cannot describe what she is, I can tell what she ought to be.—Meek, patient, long-suffering, obedient in all things, not self-willed, not soon angry, no brawler, swift to hear, slow to speak, and ready to every good word and work. But I can no more, I dare not go on in telling another what she ought to be, when I want so much myself; only this I know, when possessed of those good qualities before-mentioned, she will then be as happy as her heart can wish, and afford great reason of thanksgiving to, dear Mr. ———,

Your and Mrs. ———'s affectionate friend,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER XXXIX.

To Mr. ———.

My dear Friend, *On board the Whitaker, May* 6, 1738.

HOW goes time? I can scarce tell; for I have been some time past, as one would think, launching into eternity. GOD has been pleased graciously to visit me with a violent fever, which he notwithstanding so sweetened by divine consolations, that I was enabled to rejoice and sing in the midst of it. Indeed, I had many violent conflicts with the powers of darkness, who did all they could to disturb and distract me; but JESUS CHRIST prayed for me: And though I was once reduced to the last extremity, and all supernatural assistance seemed to be suspended for a while, and satan as it were had dominion over me, yet GOD suffered not my faith to fail; but came in at length to my aid, rebuked the tempter, and from that moment I grew better. Surely God is preparing me for something extraordinary: For he has now sent me such extraordinary conflicts and comforts as I never before experienced. I was as I thought on the brink of eternity. I had heaven within me; I thought of nothing in this world; I earnestly desired to be dissolved and go to CHRIST; but GOD was pleased to order it otherwise, and I am resigned, though I can scarce be reconciled to come back again into this vale of misery. I had the heavenly *Canaan* in full view, and hoped I was going to take possession of it; but GOD saw I was not yet ripe for glory, and therefore in mercy spared me, that I may recover my spiritual strength before I go hence and am no more seen. Oh pray, my dear friend, that I may not grow lukewarm, or slothful, but arise from my late bed of sickness, and administer with ten times more alacrity to my blessed Master, than ever I did before. I would write more, but my strength faileth me. We hope to be at *Savannah* on *Monday*.

Your's,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER XL.

To Mr. H.

Dearest Sir, *Savannah, June* 10, 1738.

ABOUT five weeks I have been at *Savannah*, where providence seems to intend continuing me for some time. GOD has graciously visited me with a fit of sickness; but now I am lively as a young eagle. All things have happened better than expectation. *America* is not so horrid a place as it is represented to be. The heat of the weather, lying on the ground, &c. are mere painted lions in the way, and to a soul filled with divine love not worth mentioning. The country, mornings and evenings, is exceeding pleasant, and there are uncommon improvements made (considering the indifference of the soil) in divers places. With a little assistance the country people would do very well. As for my ministerial office, I can inform you, that GOD (such is his goodness) sets his seal to it here, as at other places. We have an excellent christian school, and near a hundred constantly attend at evening prayers. The people receive me gladly, as yet, into their houses, and seem to be most kindly affected towards me. I have a pretty little family, and find it possible to manage a house without distraction. Provisions we do not want to feed on, though we are cut off from all occasions to pamper our bodies. Blessed be GOD, I visit from house to house, catechise, read prayers twice and expound the two second lessons every day; read to a house-ful of people three times a week; expound the two lessons at five in the morning, read prayers and preach twice, and expound the catechism to servants, &c. at seven in the evening every *Sunday*. What I have most at heart, is the building an orphan-house, which I trust will be effected at my return to *England*. In the mean while, I am settling little schools in and about *Savannah*; that the rising generation may be bred up in the nurture and admonition of the LORD. The LORD prosper my weak endeavours for promoting his glory and his people's good. Oh, dear Mr. *H.* pray for me. For I do, indeed I do, pray for you and your's. Remember me to dear Mrs. *H.* and exhort her to perfect holiness in the fear of GOD. Remind Mr. *W*——, (since he will not hearken

to me) to work out his salvation with fear and trembling, and beg him to pray for, though he will not write to, dear Mr. *H.*

Ever, ever your's,

G. W.

LETTER XLI.

To Mr. ———.

Dear Mr. ——, *Kilrush, (Ireland) Nov.* 16, 1738.

I Have not forgot you; and as a proof of it, send you this to acquaint you of my safe arrival here. I know you will rejoice and give thanks, and pray that my coming to *London* may be in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of peace. GOD has done for me more abundantly than I could dare ask or think. The seed of the glorious gospel has taken root in the *American* ground, and, I hope, will grow up into a great tree. By my friends prayers I believe it hath been planted. Oh that they may continue to water it with the same means, and then our great GOD will give it an effectual increase.—I hope to see you in a few days at my old lodgings, and to rejoice with you for what GOD has done for our souls. Indeed, I have felt his power; I have tasted and known of a truth, that the LORD is gracious! *America*, infant *Georgia*, is an excellent soil for christianity; you cannot live there without taking up a daily cross. Therefore, I shall hasten back as soon as possible after *Christmas*. Oh! that, in the mean while, I may be enabled to be instant in season and out of season, and preach with demonstration of the spirit, and with power! Methinks I see Mr. ——— lifting up his eyes towards heaven, and silently saying, Amen.—I hope you will excuse Mr. *D.*'s letter. I have forgot his house, though not his person and his love. No, all your kindnesses, O my friends, are engraven upon my heart, and I trust will never be forgotten by, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER XLII.

To Mr. H.

My dear Friend, *London, Dec.* 30, 1738.

I Am appointed by the truſtees to be miniſter of *Savannah*. The biſhop of *London* (Doctor *Gibſon*) accepts the title, and has given me letters demiſory to any other biſhop. I have waited alſo on Doctor *Secker*, biſhop of *Oxford*, who acquaints me that our worthy dioceſan, good Biſhop *Benſon*, ordains for him to-morrow fortnight at *Oxford*, and that he will give me letters demiſory to him. GOD be praiſed; I was praying night and day, whilſt on ſhip-board, if it might be the divine will, that good Biſhop *Benſon*, who laid hands on me as a deacon, might now make me a prieſt.—And now my prayer is anſwered.—Be pleaſed to wait on his Lordſhip, and deſire him to inform you, when I muſt be at *Oxford* in order to receive impoſition of hands. Oh pray that I may be duly prepared. It will be a month before I can ſee *Glouceſter*. I long to ſee you. I love you and your's in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST; but I have ſcarce time to ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Sir,

Your's eternally,

G. W.

LETTER XLIII.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *London, Jan.* 27, 1739.

IF I forget Mr. *H.* and his wife, may my right-hand forget her cunning. Exceſs of buſineſs alone was the cauſe of my ſilence. I ſleep but little, very little. Had I a thouſand hands, I could employ them all. I ſcarce know what it is to have an idle moment. It is late now. I have juſt been expounding. GOD fills me with his ſpirit, and I muſt redeem a little time to write to dear Mr. *H.* Indeed, indeed I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. O when ſhall I return your paſt favours! I thank you for bleſſing GOD on my behalf. I want a thouſand tongues to praiſe him. He ſtill works by me more and more. Subſcriptions for erecting an orphan-houſe come in a-pace. On *Monday* ſevennight, GOD willing,

I set out for *Briſtol*, with Mr. *Seward*, and from thence propoſe coming to *Glouceſter*. Oh that it may be in the fulneſs of the bleſſing of the goſpel of peace! Mr. *Howel Harris*, and I, are correſpondents, bleſſed be God! May I follow him, as he does JESUS CHRIST. How he outſtrips me! Fye upon me, fye upon me. How does my brother? My love to him and all. I long to ſee you and yours, and to give you repeated aſſurances of my being, dear Sir,

Your's eternally,

G. W.

LETTER XLIV.

To the Mr. ——

Dear Sir, *Baſingſtoke, Feb.* 8, 1739.

THOUGH I deſired you to write firſt, yet the love I bear you, will not ſuffer me to wait ſo long before you hear from me.—Juſt now has GOD brought us to *Baſingſtoke*, where I hope an effectual door will be opened before we leave it, as well as at *Windſor*.—Oh my dear friend, more and more do I ſee the benefit of confeſſing our bleſſed LORD before men.—You have not been aſhamed of the croſs.—No, dear Mr. —— has put his hand to the plough; he will not, ſurely he cannot look back; but JESUS CHRIST alone can keep me and my dear friend from falling. He has begun and he will carry on, he will finiſh the good work in our ſouls.—We have nothing to do, but to lay hold on him by faith, and to depend on him for wiſdom, righteouſneſs, ſanctification and redemption. Not but we muſt be workers together with him; for a true faith in JESUS CHRIST will not ſuffer us to be idle.—No, it is an active, lively, reſtleſs principle; it fills the heart, ſo that it cannot be eaſy, till it is doing ſomething for JESUS CHRIST. —Methinks I hear my dear friend crying out, "LORD, evermore give me this faith!" Believe me, I heartily ſay, *Amen.* Aſk then, my dear Sir, and it ſhall be given you, ſeek and ſtrive for it, and yet a little while and I ſhall ſee you a new creature; your heart I hope is ſomewhat broken already.—All praiſe be to GOD's free grace in CHRIST.—Go on, my dear friend, and never ceaſe till you know you are CHRIST's, by the ſpirit that ſhall be given you. Never fear your carnal friends, renounce

them and every thing elſe that ſtands in competition with your duty to GOD.—What have we to do to know any one after the fleſh? Let him, who doth the will of our Father in heaven, be our brother, our ſiſter, our mother. For this reaſon I ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Sir,

Your's moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER XLV.

To Mr. H——.

Dear Mr. H——, *Oxon, April, 24, 1739.*

BLESSED be GOD for working upon your heart by my miniſtry. I hope the wiſh'd-for time will come, when I ſhall ſee you full of faith and the Holy Ghoſt. Copies may be taken of my letter; but I would not have it printed, becauſe I intend, when retir'd from the world, to make ſome diſcourſes on the ſubject of free grace. Pray acquaint your mother, that I interceded for her ſolemnly laſt night. I beſought GOD, that ſhe might have her Saviour revealed in her heart; that is the only way to get above the fears of death. Chriſt in us is the hope of glory. I rejoice to hear *Mr. Cole* builds you up in your moſt holy faith. I exhort you to go on, and who knows but dear *Mr. H.* may, under GOD, keep up religion in *Glouceſter*. *Mr. Kinchin's* conduct in fearing the church, and giving up the parſonage, has ſadly grieved the ſpirit of many good ſouls here; but I bleſs God they are now a little comforted. Oh dear *Mr. H—*, my heart is drawn towards *London* moſt ſtrangely. Perhaps you may hear of your friend's impriſonment. I expect no other preferment. God grant I may behave ſo, that when I ſuffer, it may not be for my own imprudencies, but for righteouſneſs ſake, and then I am ſure the ſpirit of CHRIST and of glory will reſt upon my ſoul. Oh dear *Mr. H—*, I beſeech you, break off from the world. Shake off every fetter that keeps your ſoul from GOD, and then how will it rejoice the heart of, dear Sir,

Your's eternally,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER XLVI.

To the Same.

Dear Mr. H—— *London, April 27, 1739.*

I Rejoice to hear of the affection of my countrymen. It is a good sign, that the word has taken deep root in their hearts. But above all, do I rejoice that dear *Mr. H—* is truly sensible of the free grace of GOD in CHRIST. Now, my dear friend, you will begin to be a christian indeed. Blessed be God, I hear my honoured M—— is becoming a fool for CHRIST's sake. I do not despair of Mr. *W.* nay, I cannot despair of any one, when I consider, what I once was myself. Let but GOD speak the word, and the work shall be done. I always hope well of opposers. To-day, my master by his providence and spirit compelled me to preach in the church-yard at *Islington*. To-morrow I am to repeat that mad trick, and on *Sunday* to go out into *Moor-fields*. The word of the LORD runs and is glorified. Peoples hearts seem quite broken. GOD strengthens me exceedingly. — I preach till I sweat through and through. All is well at *Savannah*. Brave news from *Gibraltar*. Innumerable blessings does GOD pour down upon me. Oh that I had a thankful heart. I love you both sincerely; I thank you both heartily. I salute all our dear friends most affectionately, and am, dear Sir,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER XLVII.

To the Same.

Dear Mr. H—— *London, May 10, 1739.*

THE hour for my imprisonment is not yet come. I am not fit as yet to be so highly honoured. God only knows the treachery of my heart; but amidst all my late success, I have scarce felt one self-complacent thought. I speak this to the honour of God's free grace. In about three weeks, God willing, we embark for *Pensylvania*. The trustees have granted to me land and every thing upon my own terms; the officers and general are exceeding kind to my friend *Habersham* upon my account, so that all things succeed beyond my expectations. I am sorry to hear

of Mr. *H*——'s conduct—Poor man! The love of money is rooted in his heart. Where is the honesty he so much boasts of and relies on? Does not this more and more convince you that nothing but a true faith in JESUS CHRIST will enable you to act aright? However, he is not to be envyed. I pity him. Money, thus got, will never prosper. I rejoice that you and your spouse are content. I wish you both may have JESUS CHRIST formed in your hearts, and am

Ever, ever yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER XLVIII.

To ——

My dear Brethren in CHRIST, *Blendon, June* 12, 1739.

I Am jealous over you with a godly jealousy, and therefore write to you this second letter. I find more and more that satan has desired to have some of you in particular, that he may sift you as wheat, and will strive if possible to divide and separate you all.—I hear there is a woman among you, who pretends to the spirit of prophecy, and what is more unaccountable, I hear that Brother —— (whom I love in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST) seems to approve of her. Need therefore, great need have you, my brethren, at this time to take the apostle's advice, and to try the spirits whether they be of GOD. For the devil is beginning to mimic GOD's work, and because terrors will not do, he is now transforming himself into an angel of light in order more effectually to gain his point. Brother —— also, I cannot but think, at present is under a spirit of delusion. He, as well as brother ——, I believe imagines there will be a power given to work miracles, and that now CHRIST is coming to reign a thousand years upon the earth.—But alas! what need is there of miracles, such as healing sick bodies, and restoring sight to blind eyes, when we see greater miracles every day done by the power of GOD's word? Do not the spiritually blind now see? Are not the spiritually dead now raised, and the leprous souls now cleans'd, and have not the poor the gospel preached unto them? And if we have the thing already, which such miracles were only intended to introduce, why should we tempt GOD in requiring further signs?

ſigns? He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. And as for our LORD's coming at this time to reign upon the earth, I anſwer, it is not for us to know the times and ſeaſons, which the Father hath put in his own power.—That a great work is begun is evident, that it will be carried on I doubt not; but how it will end, I know not, neither do I deſire to know. It is ſufficient for me to do the work of the day in its day, and to reſt ſatisfied in this, that all will end in GOD's glory. Lately, brother —— told me he was ſhortly, he believed, to be called to ſome public work.—I pray GOD he may not run before he is called. To teach, I know, is a pleaſing thing; but to begin to teach too ſoon or without a commiſſion, will be deſtruction to ourſelves, and of ill conſequence to others. Uzzah might mean well, when he touched the ark, but his good intention did not preſerve him from the juſt judgments of GOD. Be not many maſters, ſays the apoſtle. Oh that that verſe was deeply engraven on the tables of our hearts! My dear brethren, be not offended at this plainneſs of ſpeech. I would all the LORD's ſervants were prophets, but then I would not have people think themſelves prophets of the LORD, when they are only enthuſiaſts—If Mr. —— is acted by a good ſpirit, why is he not patient of reproof? Why does he fly in a paſſion, when contradicted? why does he pretend to be infallible, and that God always ſpeaks in him? May GOD give us all a right judgment in all things. Pure unfeigned love cauſes me to uſe this freedom. Many of you GOD has worked upon by my miniſtry, and therefore I would not have you ignorant of ſatan's devices. O beware of him at this time. Do not conceive prejudices againſt each other. Do not diſpute, but love; purge out the old leaven from amongſt you. Have no fellowſhip with any that converſe with Mr. —— If they have a mind to depart from you, let them depart. Do you build up each other in your moſt holy faith. My dear brethren,

I am your common ſervant in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER XLIX.

To the Rev. Mr. ———

Dear Sir, *Leachlade, July* 18, 1739.

THE scene this morning much affected me; you both put me in mind, how that happy pair, *Adam* and *Eve*, looked when arraign'd by the Almighty after having eaten the forbidden fruit. Behold the same remedy reached out to you as to them.—The seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.—Look up to him whom you have pierced.—He will heal your backslidings and love you freely—Had he not loved you both, both of you ere now would have been given over to a reprobate mind. I know the time, when you both were enlightned, when you tasted the good word of GOD, and felt the powers of the world to come.—Honour, falsely so called, has caused you to draw back, but I believe not unto perdition. JESUS is still striving with your heart. Come to him by faith, renounce the world, and he will yet delight to honour you. "Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." Mention not old things, let all things become new. I love both of you from my heart. Come forth, and be ye separate, saith the LORD almighty. Break with the world at once, and you shall become fools for CHRIST's sake. What if your wife sent some such letter as the following to her parents.

Honoured Father and Mother,

THE contents of this letter will surprize you, but I can no longer halt between GOD and the world; the happy convictions, that GOD once put into my heart, now arise in my mind, I will no longer be an almost christian. I am resolved to become a fool for CHRIST's sake. Blessed be GOD Mr. *M*— is like-minded.—Hitherto have I hindered him in his spiritual progress, GOD forbid I should do it any longer. Hence forward will we go hand in hand together, and naked follow a naked CHRIST.——

Dearest Mr.——, I am ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER L.

Dear Madam, *London, July* 23, 1739.

YOUR letter filled me with joy and with pity. Pity, to see you tempted, joy, to find you are thought worthy of enduring temptation. Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat. But be not afraid, JESUS CHRIST is praying for you, and your faith shall not fail. Your master hath been in the wilderness before you, and knows by experience, how to succour those that are tempted. Lift up then the hands that hang down, and strengthen the feeble knees. Infidel books have poisoned your understanding, and rivetted great pride therein. Strong temptations are necessary to mortify that pride, and to teach you that lowliness of heart, which our LORD calls all that are weary and heavy laden to learn of him. Look up then to JESUS, the author and finisher of your faith. He will send you help in every time of need. Indeed he will never leave you, nor forsake you. Follow him as the poor *Syrophœnician* woman did, and though he may now turn away his face seemingly for a while, yet he will always support you inwardly by a living faith, and shortly give you the spirit of adoption, whereby you will be enabled to cry, "Abba, Father." I speak this by happy experience. I have mourned, but now I am comforted. I have gone through the spirit of bondage, and, for ever be adored GOD's free grace, he has given me the spirit of adoption. And that you also will have this in GOD's due time and way, is the firm belief of

Your unworthy brother, and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LI.

Dear Mr. H—— *London, July* 23, 1739.

I Wish you joy of your new-born son. Oh that it may be made a real child of GOD. I purpose, God willing, to stand to my promise, either in person, or by proxy. I know not yet, how providence will be pleased to dispose of me. I have written to the Lords of the Admiralty for a licence. Saturday evening next, I hope you will see *Mr. Charles Wesley.* He intends to preach at *Glouceſter, Raindwick,* &c.

Pray desire *Mr. Cole* and our other dear friends to appoint places. Matters go on most bravely here. I think people are ten times more affected than ever. The audiences full and numerous, and they give their mites for the orphan house with a cheerful and ready heart. Have you heard how I preached upon the stage among the cudgel players at *Basingstoke*, and got a blow? Both I and my companions were also turned out of our inn, and in danger of being beaten heartily. Blessed be GOD! My sermon comes out on *Wednesday*. Heartiest love to dear Mrs. H—. That JESUS CHRIST may be fully formed in both your hearts, is the prayer of,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER LII.

Honoured Sir, *London, July* 24, 1739.

THOUGH but a child in grace, and a novice in the things of GOD, yet I could not escape this opportunity of shewing you, how dear you are to my soul. Though unknown in person, yet you have long since been known to me in spirit. I hoped to have seen you ere I left *London*. I hasted up to town hoping to have some spiritual gift imparted to me by that means, but I was not worthy of it, I was not prepared for such a blessing.—You went before I came. A great work of GOD is doing here. The LORD JESUS gets himself the victory every day; free grace compels poor sinners to come in. Our brother —— can inform you of particulars. As for my own soul, GOD mightily strengthens me in the inward man, and gives me often such foretastes of his love, that I am almost continually wishing to be dissolved, that I may be with CHRIST. —But I am only beginning to begin to be a christian.—I must suffer also, as well as do for my dear Master. Perhaps a storm is gathering. I believe GOD will permit it to fall on my head first.—This comes then, honoured Sir, to desire your prayers, that none of those things may move me; and that I may not count even my life dear unto me, so that I may finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the LORD JESUS. Though I die for him, yet, I beseech you, honoured Sir, to pray that I may not in any way deny him. But what

am I doing? I fear, honoured Sir, I am too free. A ſenſe of your humility and love for the bleſſed JESUS makes me thus open. How ſhould I rejoice, if you would honour me with a line.—I am young, and therefore a word of exhortation and advice, would much profit, honoured Sir,

Your very humble ſervant, in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LIII.

Dear Sir, *London, July* 25, 1739.

NOT a want of love, but of time, has obliged me to ſhorten my late letters. Had I an hundred hands I could employ them all. The harveſt is very great. I am aſhamed I can do no more for him, who hath done ſo much for me; not by way of retaliation, but gratitude. Fain would I love my maſter, and will not go from him; his ſervice is perfect freedom; his yoke is eaſy, his burden light. Still he is pleaſed to ſhew us greater things. Every day affords freſh inſtances of the power of his word. I am now about to attack ſatan in one of his ſtrong-holds, if I periſh.—To-night I preach, GOD willing, where an horſe-race is to be. I find my Maſter ſtrengthens me for the work. O, dear Sir, pray for me, that my faith fail not, and that my zeal be tempered with knowledge. Our brother—— will prove an agreeable correſpondent. If buſineſs prevents my writing, he will inform you what happens from time to time to, dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LIV.

Rev. Sir, *London, July* 26, 1739.

JUST now I received your kind letter, and am endeavouring to catch a few moments to anſwer it. I thank you for your encouraging hints. O! dear Sir, continue to exhort, and provoke me to love and to good works, that I may with patience run the race that is ſet before me. Hitherto my dear Maſter magnifies his ſtrength in my weakneſs. Ever ſince he honoured me to ſuffer a little reproach for his name's ſake, at *Baſingſtoke*, he has cauſed me to rejoice with exceeding great joy.

My spirit was stirred within me. Methinks I could willingly have died to have borne my testimony against the lying vanities, and deviliſh entertainments of this generation. By the help of my Maſter, I will go on and attack the devil in his ſtrongeſt holds. O pray, dear Sir, that my zeal may be always tempered with true chriſtian prudence. It would grieve me, ſhould I bring ſufferings cauſeleſsly upon myſelf. A trying time, perhaps, is at hand. O that I may be found faithful! If providence permits, I will perform my promiſe. I am blind, I am a child, I know nothing. I only deſire the whole will of GOD may be done, in, by, and upon, dear Sir,

Your unworthy brother and fellow-labourer in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LV.

Sir, *London, July* 26, 1739.

I Received your kind letter, but muſt beg to be excuſed from diſſuading your ſon to go with ——. The employment in which he is engaged will, in the end, if faithfully improved, tend much to GOD's glory and his own good. He now ſits by me; I read over your letter to him, and he continues as reſolute as ever. The being *diſinherited* does not terrify him at all. He has a more abiding inheritance, and is willing naked to follow a naked CHRIST.—Dear Sir, let me adviſe you to do nothing raſhly. If you can pray for a bleſſing on your will when you are about to diſinherit your ſon, I ſhall wonder. Have a little patience, and then you will find that your ſon is about to act wiſely. If I thought otherwiſe, no one would be more forward to diſſuade him, than, Sir,

Your very humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER LVI.

London, July 31, 1739.

OH that my head was water and my eyes fountains of tears, that I might weep over my dear Mr. ———. What? And has my familiar friend, who has been dear to me as my own ſoul, has he taken part with, and gone back to the enemy?

enemy? Surely it cannot be!—And yet I muſt believe it.—But if any one had told my dear friend, that he would have behaved thus, would he not have cried out, "Is thy ſervant a dog that he ſhould do this?" Oh, my dear friend, I am in pain for you! Alas! who hath bewitched you, that you ſhould not obey the truth? You did run well; who, or what hath hindered you? Not a fear of man, I hope; not a deſire of that praiſe, that cometh of man. I know the time when my dear friend's heart ſtood ſtedfaſt. I know the time when my dear friend was willing to be accounted a fool for CHRIST's ſake, and choſe rather to ſuffer affliction with the people of GOD, than to enjoy the pleaſures of ſin, of falſe politeneſs, for a ſeaſon. And why ſhould I deſpair of my dear friend now? No, I know JESUS CHRIST was ſet for the falling and riſing again of many in *Iſrael*. Our LORD, I truſt, has prayed for you, and I hope your faith will not totally fail. Forgive me, I muſt ſtop and ſigh: GOD forbid I ſhould be called, at the great day, to ſay, that my dear Mr. ——— put his hand to the plough and turned back unto perdition. Good GOD! the thought ſtrikes me as though a dart was ſhot through my liver. Return, return. My dear friend, I cannot part from you for ever. Do not ſpeak peace to your ſoul, when there is no peace. Do not turn factor for the devil. Do not prejudice or hurt my brother, and thereby add to the grief you have already occaſioned

Your moſt affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LVII.

My dear Brother, *Briſtol, July* 31, 1739.

BLESSED be GOD for bringing you in ſafety home.—He is a GOD hearing prayer. May he ſanctify our meeting. I hope to ſee you here this week. I ſhall ſet out for *Deal* on *Monday*.—I long to hear how the ſoul of my dear brother proſpers.—I long to embrace you in theſe unworthy arms.—Methinks I could now ſing my nunc dimittis with pleaſure, if my eyes could ſee my dear brother's ſalvation. I hope you have converſed with Mr. *Weſley*. It will require ſome degree of boldneſs to own either of us before men. GOD vouchſafes

vouchsafes to honour us: No wonder our names are cast out as evil.—Dear Mr. ———, I hear, is staggered with the fear of man.—Sister, I trust, is in a good way. When shall I see you? Come, Oh come and warm my heart, by telling me what GOD hath done for your soul. Eternity will be too short to praise him for what he has done for

Your affectionate brother,

G. W.

LETTER LVIII.

Reverend and dear Sir, *London, August* 3, 1739.

THIS morning I received yours, and though I leave *London* this evening, yet I cannot but snatch a few moments to send you an answer. I love all that love our LORD JESUS CHRIST. The spirit of CHRIST, with me is the center. I love the man, and you in particular, though in all things he may not follow with me. I rejoice there is a revival of true religion in *Scotland.* The spirit of GOD is moving on the faces of thousands of souls in *England.* The word runs very swift, and satan falls like lightning from heaven. GOD hath sent me into the highways and hedges, to compel poor sinners to come in; many are left to water, what GOD hath been pleased to plant; I doubt not of his giving a great increase. But I am a child, I cannot speak, yet GOD will magnify his free grace. GOD will work, and all oppositions must forward, but not hinder it.—Inclosed I have sent you a sermon just published.—You may judge of my principles from that. The picture I highly honour.—May I follow them as they follow CHRIST. I am no friend to sinless perfection.—I believe the being (though not the dominion) of sin remains in the hearts of the greatest believers.—Time and business will not give me leave to enlarge.—Besides, I am but a novice in the school of CHRIST; and therefore most earnestly beg your prayers, that I may grow in the knowledge of our common LORD. At his call, I am now going abroad, and expect to suffer many things ere I return home.—Reverend and dear Sir, I wish you much success in the name of the LORD, and am

Your brother and servant in the best bonds,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER LIX.

Dear Sir, *London, August* 3, 1739.

I Cannot leave *London* without answering your last letter. I am convinced that GOD calls me now to *Georgia*, and so are our friends. GOD's ways are like the great deep.—He will go a way by himself. Exitus acta probat. The prophecy you mention, I dare not apply to myself. What am I, that GOD should so delight to honour me? However, I believe the LORD will work a great work upon the earth. Whatever instruments he shall make use of in effecting it, I care not. If CHRIST be preached, if my dear LORD be glorified, I rejoice; yea, and will rejoice. I wish all the LORD's servants were prophets. Oh, dear Sir, my heart is now melted down with a sense of the divine love! Never was a greater instance of GOD's free grace in CHRIST. What am I, O LORD, that thou shouldest delight to honour me? Even so, Father, for so it seemeth good in thy sight! Dear Sir, I could now write all day; but other business demands my attendance.—Yet a little while, and we shall sit down in the kingdom of GOD for ever. Dear Sir adieu. Oh give thanks, give thanks, and pray for

Your's most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LX.

Blendon, August 6, 1739.

AND would not dear Mr. ——— stay for my last letter? What, is he retired into the country to learn how to forget his GOD? Is he got into favour with the polite world? Are not these sad symptoms, that my dearest Mr. ——— is falling away a-pace? He runned into one extreme lately, and now satan is driving him into another. Did not I forwarn you of this? O my dear friend, my brother, return to your first love, otherwise you will find the spirit of GOD deserting you more and more every day. Nemo repente fuit turpissimus. But I can say no more.—Perhaps I am troublesome. However, give me leave to weep. Permit me to pray for you. Though you are now dead comparatively, yet, I trust, you will be alive.

alive. Though now seemingly lost, yet surely you shall be found again. GOD only knows how such news would rejoice the heart of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend in the best bonds,

G. W.

LETTER LXI.

Dear Mr. ——— ——— *August* 7, 1739.

I Thank you most heartily for your last: Had you been more particular, I should have thanked you still more. May GOD reward you for watching over my soul! Pride and selfishness are the tempers of the devil. By the help of my GOD I will never rest till my Master gives me power to overcome them. It is difficult, I believe, to go through the fiery trial of popularity and applause untainted. Blessed be GOD, I am now sweetly retired. O help me, my dear Sir, by your prayers, as well as your advice, and believe me desirous to subscribe myself,

Your's most affectionately in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LXII.

On board the Elizabeth, Gravesend, August 14, 1739.

Reverend and dear Sir,

YOUR kind letter gave me much satisfaction. It breathed the language of one, who is a Boanerges in the church of GOD. Excess of business prevented my answering it sooner. As I am now retired from a public life, I trust I shall have time to try my heart and search out my spirit. Forget me not, dear Sir, when you are praying for all those, who travel by land and by water, when storms and winds are blowing over me. I hope I shall always carry you, and others of my dear friends in *Wales*, upon my heart, whenever I go in and out before the LORD. It would rejoice my soul to hear from you, when abroad. Exhort me, oh exhort me, to be valiant for the truth. Bid, oh bid me, dear Sir, to be mindful of a dying and risen JESUS.—Bid me to remember the riches of his free grace in pulling me as a brand out of the fire, and exhort me to lay down my life for his sake.—Brother *Harris*, I find, has

come

come off triumphantly.—The hour of suffering is not yet come. GOD prepare us all for it! I expect to suffer for my blessed master's name sake. But, wherefore do I fear? My master will pray for me.—Dear Sir, adieu. I know you not in person. Perhaps I may never see your face in the flesh. However, I shall see you in heaven, and then you shall see how sincerely I now subscribe myself,

Your unworthy brother and fellow-servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LXIII.

On board the Elizabeth, Gravesend, August 14, 1739.

Dear Madam,

I Cannot think of your favours, and yet forbear writing a letter of thanks. I cannot think of your parting tears, and not inform you, how sincerely I pray GOD to comfort and refresh your soul.—Oh Madam, your kindness to such a dead dog as I am, quite surprizes me. How much more ought you and I, and all mankind, to adore the unspeakable goodness of our heavenly Father, who has so loved the world, as to give his only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Dear Madam, never rest till you have a lively faith in CHRIST JESUS. GOD has put into your heart good desires after it. Continue instant in prayer; apply to JESUS CHRIST, as a poor sinner, and yet a little while, and dear Mrs. —— shall be a christian indeed. Hasten, O LORD, that blessed time. Oh let thy kingdom come, in full power, into this thy handmaiden's heart! Innumerable temptations surround you, to make you take up your rest here. But, I hope, *Madam*, you will be upon your guard, and let nothing be thought of, or done, by you, which may any way tend to indulge the lust of the eye and the pride of life. Simplicity is the very spirit of the gospel; therefore, the more we learn CHRIST, the more regardless we shall be of worldly vanities. GOD of his infinite mercy make you a widow indeed! You see, Madam, how freely I have wrote to you. It is because I value your welfare.—It is the best return that can be made, for all favours conferred on, Madam,

Your most obliged friend and servant in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LXIV.

On board the Elizabeth, Gravesend, August 14, 1739.

Dear Madam,

YOUR affectionate parting, and the tears I observed you to shed, even when I was at a distance from you, made me almost ready to cry out "What mean you to weep and to break my heart?" Oh may our dear LORD put your tears into his bottle, and reward you a thousand fold for all the kindnesses you have shewn to me! Indeed I am less than the least of his servants. But yet, so loving is my dear Master, that he will not let a cup of cold water given in his name, to pass by unobserved or unrewarded. When partaking of your bounty of flour, I hope I shall pray that you and your's may eat bread in the kingdom of GOD. You have all good desires; I hope you are not far from the kingdom of GOD.—Oh let there not be any thing lacking. Give GOD your hearts, your whole hearts; let JESUS CHRIST's be your whole wisdom, your whole righteousness; and then he will be your whole sanctification and eternal redemption. I write this from my floating habitation, to assure you how sincerely I am

Your most obliged friend and affectionate humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER LXV.

On board the Elizabeth, August 14, 1739.

My dear Mr. ———

AT length we are embarked; our ship is now going to the *Downs*.—Yet a little while, and, GOD willing, I shall see you once more in the flesh. My family consists of more than twelve, besides two children; I hope all are desirous to know CHRIST. GOD strengthens me mightily in the inner man. The sermon I have sent you is one of my extempore sermons.—The journal will acquaint you with particulars.—My brother, the captain, hath been with me this last week.—If he leaves off disputing, and will come to CHRIST as a poor lost sinner, he will do well.—The bishop of *London* has lately wrote against me; I trust GOD hath assisted me in writing an answer.—It is now in the press.—All the self-righteous are up

in

in arms.—My Master makes me more than a conqueror through his love. Mr. ——— has about forty societies in *Yorkshire*. Both the Mr. *Wesley*'s go on well.—Go where you will, religion (either for or against it) is the talk.—Probably a suffering time will come. You will not be ashamed of me, though I should be a prisoner. Perhaps you will be put to the trial: But how does my dear friend's heart? Have you found CHRIST? Does he live in you, so as to be the alpha and omega, the beginning and end of all your actions? Are you enlightened to see the exceeding great riches and fulness of his grace? Oh how will it rejoice my soul to see you a proficient in the school of CHRIST? How will it delight me to see your little flock pressing towards the mark.—Soon after this reaches *Georgia*, I hope to see you.—My stay will be as short as possible at *Philadelphia*. I must not delay coming to my dear, though poor charge.—I expect to find *Savannah* almost desolate; but our extremity is GOD's opportunity. I believe it will lift up its drooping head.—For the present, my dear friend, farewell.

Your's most affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LXVI.

On board the Elizabeth going to the Downs, August 15, 1739.

My dear Brother,

THE agony I was in at your departure, and the many strong cryings and tears which I offered up to GOD afterwards, plainly shew, that I love you in sincerity and truth. Though I am now about to launch into the great deep, yet I must write you a parting line. I cannot but think you will come to CHRIST in earnest. GOD has most remarkably met you by his providence.—His spirit has been striving with you, and I doubt not but it will get the victory over your carnal reasonings, and the rebellion of a depraved heart. But do not, my dear brother, I beseech you, dispute against your own happiness.—Be not unwilling to confess that you are not yet a christian. Remember what our LORD hath said: "Whosoever receiveth not the kingdom of GOD, as a little child, shall in no-wise enter therein."—I beseech you, by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS our LORD, to leave off *disputing*. You

have

have been, I think, frequently convinced; but nature, I find, has as frequently interposed, and persuaded you that you had gone far enough already.—But does not my dear brother find, that he yet lacks something? Have not his tempers and corruptions; nay, hath not sin itself dominion over him? Are his affections weaned from the world? Does he feel himself a poor lost sinner? Is he willing the LORD JESUS should be his whole righteousness? Is he convinced of the freeness, as well as of the riches of his grace? You see, my dear brother, how freely I deal with you. It is because I love you with a peculiar love.—Never did my heart exult at the sight of any relation, as at the sight of you. Surely GOD intends to give me my dear brother. He is already an almost; hasten, O LORD, that blessed time, when he shall be an altogether christian, and let thy kingdom, with full power, come into my dear brother's heart!—How shall I say farewell? If you have opportunity, pray write to

Your most affectionate, though unworthy brother,

G. W.

LETTER LXVII.

On board the Elizabeth going to the Downs, August 16, 1739.

Dear Mr. ———

I Thank GOD for his goodness to brother *Howell Harris*. I thank you for informing me of it. The storm is diverted for a while, but I expect it to break upon my head one time or another. GOD has, for a while, prepared me a place of refuge in the ship, from whence I write this. Oh beseech him, that I may improve the retirement by searching out my spirit. I have almost forgot, that I was in the world. My family on board is quite settled, and we live and love like christians. GOD only knows where you and I shall meet again; whether in time or eternity. However, this we know, that both must be tried to the uttermost. Inward and outward afflictions await us, and all the children of GOD. I am now reading the book of martyrs. They make me blush to think how little I suffer for CHRIST's sake. They warm my heart, and make me think the time long till I am called to resist even unto blood: But I fear the treachery of this heart of mine. Dear

Mr.

Mr. ———, to your past, add one more favour, "pray that I may be found faithful." I trust I shall have a sweet remembrance of you and my other dear friends, when I go in and out before the LORD. Salute them most affectionately. Exhort them, oh exhort them to continue in the grace of GOD; and forget not to write to, dear Mr. ———,

Yours most affectionately in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LXVIII.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.*

THOUGH business prevents my corresponding with you so frequently as I did when in *England*, yet what can hinder me now, but a want of gratitude and love? Accept then, dear Sir, my sincere, though late thanks, for all favours conferred upon me, and assure yourself, I remember both you and your beloved people at the throne of grace. Nothing will rejoice me more than to hear, that the good pleasure of the LORD prospers in your hand. Oh dear Sir, what a gracious Master do we serve! His loving-kindness still prevents, accompanies, and follows me. He has not given me over unto death, but is still pleased to dig and dung round me, and not cut me down as a cumberer of the ground. I long to be purged, dear Sir, that I may bring forth more fruit. Since my retirement from the world, I have seen more and more how full I am of corruption. Nothing could possibly support my soul under the many agonies which oppressed me, when on board, but a consideration of the freeness, eternity, and unchangeableness of GOD's love to me, the chief of sinners.—In about a twelvemonth, probably, I shall return again to my native country. Satan no doubt will endeavour to stir up all his forces against me. By the help of my GOD, I will once more come forth with my sling and my stone.—I shall wait with impatience to hear how the work goes on in my absence. I trust, GOD, by this time, has sent forth more labourers into his harvest. I heartily wish all the LORD's servants were prophets. I verily believe, the right-hand of the LORD will not only have the pre-eminence, but also bring mighty things to pass. O how do I long,

* Many of the letters of this date were written on ship-board during the passage, but dated when sent off from *Philadelphia*.

dear Sir, to see bigotry and party-zeal taken away, and all the LORD's servants more knit together. Pray, my due respects to all that are so kind as to enquire after me. Exhort them to pray and give thanks for,

Your unworthy friend, brother, and servant in our dear LORD's vineyard,

G. W.

LETTER LXIX.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

MAN appoints, but GOD disappoints. No doubt it was best, that I should not see your answer to the bishop's letter before I left *England*. I hope it was wrote with the meekness and gentleness of CHRIST, and then no doubt GOD will give his blessing. Oh, dear Sir, how is the glory departed from *Israel!* In what dregs of time are we born? Boasting of our orthodoxy and primitive purity, and yet alas! but —— is not this enough, dear Sir, to excite our zeal even till it do eat us up? Wherefore hath GOD called us by his free grace, and made a difference between us and others, but that we should stand up in defence of his injured honour? Your friend, Mr. ——, has told me how plentifully you once tasted of the good word of life, and felt the powers of the world to come. Oh that the divine spark may again kindle in the heart till it become a flame of fire! Nothing will so much enforce your arguments as a life exactly conformable to the holy JESUS.— When with you last, I thought you spoke too favourable of horse-races, and such things. But what diversion ought a christian or a clergyman to know or speak of, but that of doing good? Many who are right in their principles, are worse than I could wish in their practice. Oh for a revival of true and undefiled religion in all sects whatsoever! I long to see a catholic spirit over-spread the world; may GOD vouchsafe to make me an instrument of promoting it! Methinks, I care not what I do or suffer, so that I may see my LORD's kingdom come with power. But I know not my own weakness, till I am tried. Dear Sir, pray for me, that I may be found faithful in an hour of temptation. I expect to be tried to the uttermost, and to hear, that many are become my enemies, who once would, as it were, have plucked out their eyes

for

for me. It is neceſſary that ſuch offences ſhould come; otherwiſe, how can I know that I am, what I deſire to be, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and true brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LXX.

Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1739.

My dear Brethren, and worthy fellow-labourers in CHRIST,

THOUGH I know none of you in perſon, yet, from the time I heard of your faith and love towards our dear LORD JESUS, I have been acquainted with you in ſpirit, and have conſtantly mentioned you in my poor prayers. The good pleaſure of the LORD, I find, proſpers in your hands; and I pray GOD increaſe you more and more, both you and your children. *Scotland*, like *England*, hath been ſo much ſettled upon it's lees for ſome time, that I fear our late days may properly be called the midnight of the church. Bleſſed be GOD, the Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, who hath ſent forth many of his ſervants with this cry, "Behold the bridegroom cometh." Thouſands obey the call, and are trimming their ſpiritual lamps, in order to go forth to meet him. I cannot but think a winnowing time will come after this in-gathering of ſouls. O that we may ſuffer only as chriſtians, and then the ſpirit of CHRIST and of glory will reſt upon us. In patience poſſeſs your ſouls, and I will leave my cauſe to GOD. You, my reverend Brethren, I am perſuaded, are no otherwiſe minded; may we go on then in the power, and under the guidance of the LORD of HOSTS. The eternal GOD will be your perpetual refuge. He that employs, will protect; as your day is, ſo ſhall your ſtrength be. Let not our dear LORD's lambs periſh for lack of knowledge. "Give ye, give ye them to eat," methinks, is the endearing, conſtraining command of the great Shepherd and Biſhop of ſouls. And O that a due obedience may be paid to it by me, your unworthy brother. But I bluſh almoſt, when I ſtile myſelf your brother; for I am a child, and all of you are fathers. Oh, ſtrive together with me in your prayers, that the divine ſtrength may be ſtill magnified in my weakneſs. You will intreat the LORD to

bleſs the orphan-houſe. I have reaſon to think, GOD will bring great good out of it. Oh that I may be prepared for future favours! Oh that pride and ſelf-love may thoroughly be ſubdued! Brethren, I beſeech you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS, to pray for me, whilſt winds and ſtorms are blowing over me. You are not forgotten by him, who, though the moſt unworthy of his LORD's ſervants, deſires to ſubſcribe himſelf,

Your affectionate brother, and fellow-pilgrim and labourer in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LXXI.

My dear Friend, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

BECAUSE I will not forget you, I begin to write before we get on ſhore. How is dear Mr. ———'s heart? Has he yet recovered his firſt love? And is that prophecy, "This child is ſet for the falling and riſing again of many in *Iſrael*," as yet fulfilled in him. I cannot but think a good work was once wrought upon your ſoul. I cannot but think, GOD will yet fulfil his whole will in you. But let not my dear friend linger any longer. If there is mercy with GOD, let him be feared, not diſobeyed. If he has promiſed to heal our backſlidings, and love us freely, let his goodneſs lead us to repentance. Proſperity hath been a ſnare to you; every day I ſee the excellency of that part of *Agur*'s, prayer, "Give me not riches, leſt I be full and deny thee, and ſay, who is the LORD." And that petition in our liturgy, "In all time of our wealth, good LORD deliver us." I always take particular notice of it. I believe you will not be at all richer this year, than you was the laſt.—For as riches increaſe, our wants increaſe with them. —I write not this to have you deſert your ſtation, but to excite a holy jealouſy in your heart.—Oh, what would I give to ſee my dear friend, as formerly, "Fervent in ſpirit, ſerving the LORD." If GOD ſends me to *England* again, I ſhall try my friends. However that be, I am perſuaded, that ſuffering for righteouſneſs ſake, is the beſt, the greateſt preferment in the church of CHRIST. But how does your little — I would not willingly ſay, your great idol. Pray accept a quarto bible for

him.

him. Oh, my friend, give him up to GOD, and do not provoke him, by over-fondneſs and too great indulgence, to take him from you. The little lambs on board improve bravely; they bear the voyage beſt of all. They are as luſty as eagles: GOD has dealt moſt gently with us. I hope I may ſay, the church in my houſe ſalute you and your wife.—I do not forget her; may ſhe never reſt till ſhe comes into the glorious liberty of the children of GOD! It is a bleſſed thing, my dear friend, to be the LORD's freeman. My heart is full; I repent I have not allowed more paper. My dear Sir, excuſe and pray for

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy friend,

G. W.

LETTER LXXII.

My dear Siſter in CHRIST, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

WANT of time, not want of reſpect, has prevented my anſwering your kind letters. I eſteem you highly for CHRIST's ſake. I believe you to be one whom GOD has choſen out of the world, and hath ſealed to the day of redemption. Nothing, therefore, ſhall pluck you out of his hands. Was it not for this promiſe, my ſoul would be exceeding ſorrowful at the proſpect of what I may undergo. The innumerable temptations that attend a popular life, ſometimes make me think it would be beſt for me to withdraw. But then I conſider, that He, who delivered *Daniel* out of the den of lions, and the three children out of the fiery furnace, is able and willing to deliver me alſo out of the fiery furnace of popularity and applauſe, and from the fury of thoſe, who, for preaching CHRIST, and him crucified, are my inveterate enemies. In his ſtrength therefore, and at his command, whenever his providence ſhall call, I will venture out again. As yet my trials have been nothing. Hereafter a winnowing time may come; then we ſhall ſee, who is on the LORD's ſide, and who dare to confeſs CHRIST before men. None but thoſe who wholly rely on the Redeemer's righteouſneſs, and are truly born again of GOD. Oh pray, that I may be found faithful. Satan hath been very buſy with me ſince I ſaw you, but I truſt the LORD, by theſe inward trials, will purge me, that I may

bring forth more fruit. Ceaſe not to pray, that this may be the happy caſe of,

Your ſervant in the goſpel,

G. W.

LETTER LXXIII.

Dear Mr. —— *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

YOU cannot well conceive how conſtantly you have been upon my heart, ſince I ſaw you. I think there has been a ſympathy between your heart and mine. I have often pitied my dying friend, and as often prayed, that he may leave a word for GOD. I ſay, prayed, for GOD alone can remove the load. —I know too well what ſuch temptations are, to think they may be overcome by our own ſtrength. But, my dear Friend, you and I, weak as we are, can do all things through CHRIST ſtrengthening us.—Do you believe on the Son of GOD? All things are poſſible to him that believeth. If the devil therefore continues his aſſaults, reſiſt him, ſtedfaſt in the faith. Reſiſt him, my dear Friend, and he will flee from you; rather ſuffer any thing, than be unequally yoked with an unbeliever. If you cannot overcome where you are, abſence, perhaps, may cure you. Methinks, I would do and ſuffer any thing, rather than dear Mr. —— ſhould be led away.—My companions in travel have an equal reſpect for you. We have often joined in prayer for you, when eating your cake. May GOD reward you for that, and all your other kind reſpects and favours conferred on, dear Mr. ——,

Your's moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LXXIV.

Dear Madam, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Should think myſelf highly ungrateful, did I not take all opportunities of acknowledging the many kindneſſes I have received at your hands. Your laſt preſents have been exceeding ſerviceable on board the ſhip, and every time we have taſted your bounty, I have endeavoured to dart up a ſhort ejaculation for our kind benefactreſs. You cannot conceive, *dear Madam,*

how loving the LORD has dealt with us; he has given us all things richly to enjoy, and comforted us on every side. Indeed sometimes he has been pleased to withdraw from me, and to permit satan to send me a thorn in the flesh.—But that was only to shew me my vileness, and to prepare me for further manifestations of his goodness to my soul. Our voyage though long has not been tedious or burdensome. My soul wants retirement.—I dread coming out into the world again. I am confident, dear Madam, that you will pray for me, that I may be kept unspotted from it. Oh what a blessed Master do we serve! His rod as well as staff comforts the soul. His corrections are all loving, and are only intended to make us truly great. Though you seemed to doubt, yet I hope to see you once more before you go hence. I cannot say I expect liberty long, if I speak boldly the truth as I ought to speak.—Indeed there is no being a true christian, and yet holding with the world, so much as some may imagine. JESUS CHRIST calls us to simplicity. I have often thought, dear Madam, that you did not see through the world enough. Numbers are accounted christians, who have only a name to live. I pray GOD to open all our eyes, that we may see every thing clearly. A time of persecution will show who are *Israelites* indeed, and who outside professors.—I hope, Madam, that, when tried, you will come forth as gold purified seven times in the fire. I only fear for, and suspect myself.—The LORD my righteousness will uphold me. Dear Madam, GOD only knows with what gratitude I desire to subscribe myself

Your most obliged friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER LXXV.

Dear Mrs. —— *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

WHEN last abroad, I could not write to you for want of knowing your name. Blessed be GOD we have since been better acquainted, and I now know your name and place of abode. May the GOD, whom I desire to serve, richly reward you for receiving me into your house. You were one of my most constant hearers; may you be my joy and crown of rejoicing in the day of the LORD JESUS. I trust ere now,

you have felt, that the kingdom of GOD does not consist in word, but in power. I know that Mrs. —— would have me deal plainly with her soul; therefore I shall not scruple to tell her, how I have sometimes thought she was not yet clearly enough convinced of sin, and of the perfect righteousness wrought out for, and to be imputed to her, by the LORD JESUS CHRIST, through faith in his blood.—Since I have been on shipboard, blessed be GOD, his name has made my soul to smart, and caused me to see more of my own wretchedness. Oh, Mrs. ——, you know not, neither do I myself know as yet, what a mystery of iniquity is hid even in a heart timely renewed. I saw a little of it the other day; and had I not known my Redeemer liveth, and that he ever liveth to make intercession for me, I must have sunk into despair:

But there's a voice of sovereign grace
Sounds from the sacred word;
Here ye despairing sinners come,
And trust upon the LORD.

May GOD of his infinite mercy so work upon you, that, at at the last day, you may be found having on the wedding-garment! was I to study to eternity, I could wish you nothing better. May the ever-blessed GOD say Amen to it. I hope your little daughters are in good health. Dear Mrs. ——, exhort them to renounce the lust of the eye and the pride of life, and to abstain from all appearance of evil. I have a sincere concern for you and yours, and with all possible thanks for your kind presents and affection, I subscribe myself

Your sincere friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LXXVI.

Dear Mrs. —— *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

AS I do not forget to pray for, so I do not forget to write to you, to make a proper acknowledgment of your and your husband's love; exhorting you to save yourselves from this untoward generation. Before I left *London*, I perceived GOD was working upon your soul. I trust the same GOD, since my departure, has carried it on, and that you are convinced

vinced of the sin of unbelief. Oh dear Mrs. ———, it is a difficult thing to believe aright; it can only be given from above. I know many of my acquaintance, who love to hear me talk and preach, and who receive me gladly into their houses; but alas! I fear they are self-righteous, and were never yet truly convinced of sin. They have good desires, and therefore flatter themselves, that they are good christians: But I fear many of them are only foolish virgins. I would not have dear Mrs. ——— or her husband of this number. If she hath followed on to know the LORD, I am persuaded ere now, she is in some measure brought out of herself, and taught of GOD to rely only on JESUS CHRIST for wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. If thus minded, your soul is at peace with GOD, itself, and the world. If not, let her ask and it shall be given her, let her seek and she shall find, let her knock and a door of mercy shall be opened unto her.—All things are possible to him that believeth—Oh dear Mrs. ———, my heart is inlarged towards you; I long for your salvation: press on and faint not. Whenever I come, I shall expect to suffer. But though we die for CHRIST, oh let us pray that we may not deny him in any wise. Nothing but the free almighty grace of GOD can uphold,

Your sincere friend in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LXXVII.

Rev. and Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Think I may say of you, as the *Samaritans* did upon another occasion, I believe you to be a true lover of our dear LORD JESUS. Not merely because my brother told me so, but because I have it under his own hand. Your last kind letter has knit my heart most closely to you. I love those that thunder out the word. The christian world is in a deep sleep. Nothing but a loud voice can awaken them out of it. I pray GOD to strengthen you more and more, and cause you to triumph in every place. Though absent in body, I am present with you in spirit. It would rejoice me to hear of your success in the LORD. In about a twelvemonth I purpose, GOD willing,

willing, to return to *England*; who knows but then I may see you face to face, and have some spiritual gift imparted to my soul? I long to die to myself, and to be alive unto GOD. Methinks I would be always upon the wing; but alas! I have a body of sin, which at times makes me cry out, "who shall deliver me?" I thank GOD, our LORD JESUS CHRIST will deliver. But I never expect intire freedom, till I bow down my head, and give up the ghost. Every fresh employ, I find brings with it fresh temptations. GOD always humbles before he exalts me. Sometimes I speak and write freely, at other times I am comparatively barren; one while on the mount, another while overshadowed with a cloud; but blessed be GOD, at all times at peace with him, and assured that my sins are forgiven. I want to leap my seventy years; I long to be dissolved, and to be with CHRIST. But I must be made perfect by sufferings. I expect no other preferment. And you no doubt will have your share. This is our comfort, if we suffer we shall also reign with CHRIST; hasten on, O LORD, that blessed time, when dear Mr. ——— shall sit down at thy right hand, with all the spirits of just men made perfect in heaven! where I trust a seat, though of the lowest class, is prepared for

Your unworthy friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER LXXVIII.

Rev. and Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

SINCE I saw you last, you cannot well tell with what pleasure I have reflected on the uncommon power that frequently attended the word at *Bexley*. It was to me a sign of GOD's good will, both to ministers and people. The former I was convinced of, before I left *England*. The last sermon I heard you preach, gave me much satisfaction. I hope ere now you are convinced of the latter also, and have seen some good effects amongst your parishioners. However, this I am assured of, we shall all in due time reap the fruit of our labours, if we faint not. Let me therefore exhort you, by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS, to continue unwearied in well doing. You have seen the afflictions of GOD's

spiritual

ſpiritual *Iſrael*. "Do and live," is moſt they hear. But what is this, but requiring them to make bricks without ſtraw? Ariſe, ariſe, then, my dear Mr. ———; proclaim the LORD to be their righteouſneſs. The everlaſting I AM now ſends you forth: ſay not they will diſbelieve my report, for GOD ſeems to have given his people the hearing ear and obedient heart. Fear not the face of man, for the LORD, if you go out in his ſtrength, ſhall be with you, whitherſoever you go. I hope my dear and honoured friend ere now hath prevented my exhortations. Methinks I ſee him, with all boldneſs declaring the whole counſel of GOD, and the attentive people receiving joyfully the gracious words, which proceed out of his mouth. Go on, my dear brother, go on; may the LORD bleſs you more and more, daily adding to the number of your ſpiritual children. —— I thank you, from my ſoul, for all favours conferred on me, and I pray you may always confeſs our LORD and his diſciples before men. My moſt ſincere reſpects attend your help-mate and true yoke-fellow. You are conſtantly upon my heart. My next journal will acquaint you how lovingly GOD hath dealt with

Your moſt unworthy friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER LXXIX.

Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1739.

AND how does my dear Mr. *H———s?* Is he yet commenced a *field preacher?* I am perſuaded my dear friend is under the guidance of GOD's ſpirit, and therefore am convinced he will be directed for the beſt. He deſires to do his LORD's will, and ſhall he not know it? Undoubtedly he ſhall. Nay, ere now I truſt GOD has pointed out his way, and he has been upon many a mount ſtretching out his hands, and inviting all that are weary and heavy laden to come to JESUS CHRIST. Oh my dear brother, though you come after me, yet I pray GOD, you may always be preferred before me. I truſt I ſhall not envy, but rejoice in my brother's ſucceſs. At preſent, I find I love him in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST; I am frequently with you in ſpirit, and ſhall wait with impatience till I hear of my dear brother's progreſs in

the

the LORD. Alas! I fear I do not improve my retirement as I ought. GOD has graciously pleased to conduct me in mercy. The tempter has been busy with me, and I never before was more deeply wounded for sin. CHRIST's love will let nothing pluck us out of his hands. However, let us constantly watch and pray, that we enter not into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. In about a twelvemonth, GOD willing, I think of returning to *England*. I should rejoice, if you would come and supply my place at *Savannah*. If not, I must resign the parsonage, and take upon me only the care of the orphans. I intend bringing up two or three, that are with me, for the ministry: more, no doubt, will shortly be added to their number. If you could come and teach them the languages, for an hour or two in the day; we could serve both the orphan-house and parsonage together. Great things I trust will come out of *Georgia*. The LORD JESUS direct your spirit, and if it be his will, send you as a help to, dear Sir,

Your's most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LXXX.

Rev. and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

THOUGH but little acquainted with you, yet I write this to assure you, what a cordial respect I have for you. The love of GOD, which I trust, through his free grace, is shed abroad in both our hearts, constrains me to love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I remember you in my unworthy prayers, and am persuaded I am not forgotten in your's. No one more needs them, whether considered as a private christian, or a public minister; thousands are waiting for my halting; and I know so much of the corruption of my own heart, that was GOD to leave me to myself but one moment, I should with oaths and curses deny my master. As for my final perseverance, I bless GOD, I have not the least doubt thereof. The gifts and callings of GOD are without repentance. Whom he loves, I am persuaded, he loves to the end. But then I fear, lest being puffed up with abundance of success, I should provoke the LORD to let me fall into some

ſome heinous ſin, and thereby give his adverſaries reaſon to rejoice. A public life is attended with innumerable ſnares; and a ſenſe of my unworthineſs and unfitneſs ſo weighs me down, that I have often thought it would be beſt for me to retire. But I know theſe are all ſuggeſtions of the enemy. Why ſhould I diſtruſt omnipotence? Having had a legion of devils caſt out of my heart by the power of CHRIST, why ſhould I not tell what he hath done for my ſoul, for the encouragement of others. By the help of GOD, I will ſpeak; and the more ſatan bids me to hold my peace, the more earneſtly will I proclaim to believing ſaints, that JESUS the ſon of *David* will have mercy on them; nay, I do not deſpair of publiſhing theſe glad tidings even at *Wethersfield*. In a little above a twelvemonth, GOD willing, I intend returning. But ere that time comes, I truſt my dear LORD will purge me, that I may bring forth more fruit.—Satan has not been wanting to ſift me as wheat; but my friend, the friend of all, even JESUS, has prayed for me, and as yet my faith hath not failed. Oh had I a thouſand lives, my dear LORD JESUS ſhould have them all! For he is worthy, he hath plucked me as a brand out of the burning, and is continually comforting me on every ſide—Read, read, dear Sir, the account I have ſent over to be publiſhed of what GOD hath done for me in the days of my youth, and it will afford more thankſgiving and praiſe.—Pray in the behalf of, Sir,

Your moſt affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER LXXXI.

My dear Friend and Brother, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, as a proof of it, I ſend this. I heartily wiſh I could correſpond with you oftener. Your advice would always be ſeaſonable to me; becauſe you have been a long time in the ſchool of CHRIST. I am but juſt now entering the liſt, and frequently tremble at the conſideration of what I am to do and ſuffer. —— But when I conſider it is for JESUS CHRIST, who has called me by his free grace into his marvellous light, and has promiſed to be with us always, even unto the end of the world, a di-

vine fire kindles in my heart, and I long to call the lingring battle on. Satan hath been busy with me since I saw you, especially since my retirement on ship-board. I have often thought of the folly of those, who go out of the world to avoid temptation. Satan now buffets me more than when confined in a ship. I receive this as a great mercy at the hands of the LORD to keep me in action, and to prepare me for greater tokens of his love. Before I am exalted, I am always humbled by some inward trials. They are the most soul-grieving, but they are the most soul-improving conflicts. My dear friend, I can say from my heart, "I am the chief of sinners:" I feel myself so wretched and miserable, so blind and naked in myself, that satan would tempt me to write to no one. But the LORD hath rebuked him, and after a long tedious hour of temptation, fills my soul as it were with marrow and fatness, and maketh my pen the pen of a ready writer. Oh that my mouth was filled with his praise! As yet, blessed be GOD, in my darkest hours my evidences have not been in the least clouded. I have been assured my LORD hath forgiven all my iniquities, transgressions and sins, but I cannot forgive myself. Oh that I should ever offend against such dying love! Pray for me, my dear brother, pray for me, that I may never by pride or sloth tempt the blessed spirit to depart from me. I fear not falling finally; for GOD I believe chose me in CHRIST before ever the earth and the world were made, as a vessel of his saving mercy; but I fear I shall provoke him to let me fall foully, and then how will the *Philistines* rejoice? This consideration sometimes makes me to wish that the LORD would cut off my strength in my journey, and shorten my days. But wherefore do I fear? Ah me of little faith! You see, my dear friend, how freely I have unbosomed my heart to you. I cannot call you my friend, and yet hide from you GOD's dealings with my soul. Salute all that love our LORD JESUS in sincerity, and beseech them to pray for your sincere friend, but the most unprofitable of his dear LORD's servants,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER LXXXII.

Rev. and Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

YOUR kind letters, and kinder visit, have made me frequently to long for a more close correspondence with you. I find my heart drawn out in love towards you, and had GOD so ordered it, could have wished to have perused what you have written in my defence. I pray GOD to confer on you that reward, which he has promised to give those who confess him before men. If the gospel continues to run and have such free course, I must suffer, as well as preach for my dear LORD JESUS. Oh lift up your hands, *dear Sir*, in the congregations of the faithful, that I may willingly, (if need be) resist even unto blood; but not with carnal weapons. Taking the sword out of the hand of GOD's spirit, I fear has more than once stopped the progress of the gospel. The *Quakers*, though wrong in their principles, yet I think have left us an example of patient suffering, and did more by their bold, unanimous and persevering testimonies, than if they had taken up all the arms in the kingdom. In this respect I hope I shall follow them as they did CHRIST, and though I die for him, yet take up no carnal weapon in defence of him in any wise. The doctrines of our election, and free justification in CHRIST JESUS, are daily more and more pressed upon my heart. They fill my soul with a holy fire, and afford me great confidence in GOD my Saviour. Surely I am safe, because put into his almighty arms. Though I may fall, yet I shall not utterly be cast away. The spirit of the LORD JESUS will hold, and uphold me. That GOD may every day enrich you more and more with the anointings of this spirit, is the hearty prayer of, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your most obliged friend, brother, and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER LXXXIII.

To the brethren in ———

Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1739.

TWICE did I purpose to come and see you at ———, but was prevented by that all-wise providence, which ordereth all things for the best: however, though absent, I am not unmindful of you. As a testimony thereof I send you this. And oh that you may be filled with an holy fire, and such an ardent zeal for GOD as even to eat you up! Look round, look round, my brethren, and in imitation of your common LORD, weep over the desolations of the university wherein you live. Alas! how is that once faithful city become an harlot! Have pity upon her, ye that are friends, and whatever treatment you may meet with from an ungrateful world, endeavour at least to rescue some of her sons out of that blindness, ignorance, bigotry and formality, into which she is unhappily fallen. Arise, ye sons of the prophets; shine forth, ye who are appointed to be the lights of the world. The rulers of this world will endeavour to put you under bushels; but if your light is of GOD's kindling, all the devils in hell shall not be able to extinguish it. Be not therefore, my brethren, weary of well doing. Have you true faith? keep it not to yourselves; be willing, as occasion offers, freely to communicate it to others. How will you be apt to teach hereafter, unless you begin to teach now? None but those, who are of a different spirit from that meek man *Moses*, will be offended at you. All GOD's people will wish you GOD speed. I am sure I do with all my heart. And I pray GOD to sanctify your whole spirits, souls and bodies, and make you vessels meet for our common Master's use! for none but those who have felt the spirit themselves, can freely or feelingly speak of him to others. My dear brethren, forget not to pray for,

Your affectionate, though weak brother
and servant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER LXXXIV.

To ———.

My dear Brethren in CHRIST, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

THE cordial love I bear you, will not ſuffer me to neglect writing to you: as GOD has been pleaſed to bleſs my miniſtry to your ſouls, ſo I think it my duty to watch over you for good, and aſſure you, conſtantly you are all upon my heart. Your laſt letter gave me great pleaſure; but it was too full of acknowledgments, which I by no means deſerve. To him alone, from whom every good and perfect gift cometh, be all the thanks and glory; I heartily pray GOD, that you may be burning and ſhining lights in the midſt of a crooked and perverſe generation. Though you are not of the church of *England*, yet if you are perſuaded in your own minds of the truth of the way wherein you now walk, I leave it. However, whether *Conformiſts*, or *Nonconformiſts*, our main concern ſhould be, to be aſſured that we are called and taught of GOD; for none but ſuch are fit to miniſter in holy things. Indeed, my dear brethren, it rejoiced me much to ſee ſuch dawnings of grace in your ſouls; only I thought moſt of you were bowed down too much with a ſervile fear of man: but as the love of the Creator increaſes, the fear of the creature will daily decreaſe in your hearts. *Nicodemus*, who came at firſt by night to our LORD, afterwards dared to own him before the whole council in open day. I pray GOD make you all thus minded. For unleſs your hearts are free from worldly hopes and worldly fears, you never will ſpeak boldly, as you ought to ſpeak. The good old *Puritans*, I believe, never preached better, than when in danger of being taken to priſon as ſoon as they had finiſhed their ſermon. And however the church may be at peace now, yet I am perſuaded, unleſs you go forth with the ſame temper, you will never preach with the ſame demonſtration of the ſpirit, and of power. Study therefore, my brethren, I beſeech you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS, ſtudy your hearts as well as books—aſk yourſelves again and again, whether you would preach for CHRIST, if you were ſure to lay down your lives for ſo doing? If you fear the diſpleaſure of a man for doing your duty now, aſſure

yourſelves you are not yet thus minded. But enough of this. I love to hope well of you all. I truſt, as you are enlightened with ſome degree of knowledge in the myſteries of godlineſs, you will henceforth determine not to know any thing but JESUS CHRIST, and him crucified. This is, and this, the LORD being my helper, ſhall be the only ſtudy of, my dear brethren,

Your affectionate friend, brother,
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER LXXXV.

Rev. and Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

WHY ſo long ſilent during my ſtay in *England?* why did you not write me a letter of reproof, and ſmite me friendly for what you thought amiſs in the diſcourſe between me and a friend at *Briſtol?* I ſhould have taken it kindly at your hands. When I am unwilling to be told of my faults, dear Sir, correſpond with me no more. If I know any thing of this treacherous heart of mine, I love thoſe moſt, who are moſt faithful to me in this reſpect: henceforward, dear Sir, I beſeech you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS, ſpare me not. I am blind, I am full of ſelf-pride, and ſelf-love, and yet know it not. Bleſſed be GOD, who during my retirement has been pleaſed to let me ſee ſomething of my own vileneſs. I truſt he will never leave nor forſake me, till I know myſelf even as I am known. I need not fear the ſight of ſin, when I have a perfect everlaſting righteouſneſs wrought out for me by that GOD-man CHRIST JESUS. The riches of his free grace, cauſe me daily to triumph over all the temptations of the wicked one, who is very vigilant, and ſeeks all occaſions to diſturb me. The LORD CHRIST is my helper, and the lifter up of my head. It is good for me to be tempted. By inward trials I truſt my divine maſter will prepare me for his future mercies. I am perſuaded I ſhall yet ſee great things, and be called to ſuffer for his name ſake. Through much tribulation, I muſt enter into glory. Lift up your hands, dear Sir, when praying at the ſanctuary, in my behalf; intreat the ſame favour of the elect lady. As I am enabled, it ſhall be returned; and, GOD willing, when I come next

to *England*, you may expect a visit from, dear and reverend Sir,

Your most obliged friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER LXXXVI.

My Rev. and very dear Brother, *Philadelphia*, *Nov.* 10. 1739.

EVER since since I was favoured with your last most endearing letter, you have been upon my heart more and more. As I wish all the LORD's servants were prophets, so it gives me uncommon pleasure, when the LORD raises up one of our own church. Believe me, dear Sir, when I look upon her desolations, I can scarce forbear weeping over her. But blessed be GOD, who has been pleas'd to visit her in this our day. Henceforward, I trust she will be a joyful mother of spiritual children. Many of late, under GOD, have been begotten by some of her sons through the gospel, amongst whom I may reckon ———: He has been I believe, and trust will still be the ghostly father of many souls. May he increase with all the increase of GOD, and appear before his redeemer at the last day, saying, "Behold me, O LORD, and the children which thou hast given me." Oh dear Sir, words cannot express how affectionately I desire to esteem and love you. None but the all-seeing GOD knows how earnestly I pray and desire to labour for the prosperity of *Jerusalem*. Had we a thousand hands and tongues, there is employment enough for them all: people are every where ready to perish for lack of knowledge. As the LORD has been pleased to reveal his dear Son in us, Oh let us stir up that gift of GOD, and with all boldness preach him to others. Freely we have received, freely let us give; what CHRIST tells us by his spirit in our closets, that let us proclaim on the house top. He who sends, will protect us. All the devils in hell shall not hurt us, till we have finished our testimony. And then, if we should seal it with imprisonment or death, well will it be with us, and happy shall we be evermore! But the proof of our sincerity, will be when we come to the trial. I fear for no one so much as myself. Dear Sir, pray that you never may have reason to be ashamed of the

Most unprofitable of our LORD's servants,

G. W.

LETTER LXXXVII.

Dear Mr. ——, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Hope dear brother —— hath satisfied you about the queries in your last. I trust you are not angry with me for being so long silent. Excess of business was the cause. I write you this, my dear brother, to assure you I have not forgotten you. No, you are upon my heart; I pray for your prosperity both in body and soul, and hope ere we die to take another tour with you round *Wales*. GOD has dealt most lovingly with us on ship-board. We had very fair weather most part of our way. Both the good and bad spirit have been with us in the ship. The one to tempt and terrify, the other to support and comfort. I need not tell you which has prevailed. Who shall stand before the spirit of JESUS CHRIST? I have had great intimations from above concerning *Georgia*. Who knows but we may have a college of pious youths at Savannah? I do not despair thereof. *Professor Franks*'s undertaking in Germany has been much pressed upon my heart. I really believe that my present undertaking will succeed. My dear brother, call down a blessing by your prayers. The LORD will hear those who put their trust in his mercy through CHRIST. You see, you know, how many would rejoice at, and do wait for my halting. Beseech the LORD that they may be disappointed of their hope; intreat the people of *Wales* to join with you. I love them most tenderly. I hope, at my return, to see them grown in grace. I pray GOD so to improve my retirement, that my progress may be made known unto them all. Salute them most affectionately in my name, and exhort them to continue instant in prayer and thanksgivings for, dear and honoured Sir,

Your fellow pilgrim and labourer in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER LXXXVIII.

My dear brother in Christ, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

AS there has been joy in heaven at your conversion, so I can assure you there has been on earth. I, and my friends, have not failed to give thanks, that you our brother

was

was dead, but is alive again; was loſt, but is found. Oh bleſſed be GOD for calling you at the eleventh hour. Doth not this diſplay the riches of his free grace; and ought it not to fill you with his praiſe all the day long? I wonder not that you are already become a fool for CHRIST's ſake. All that will live godly in him muſt ſuffer perſecution. But fear not man. The LORD OF HOSTS ſhall be with you; the ſtrength of that GOD who hath called you ſhall be your refuge. As you have not long to live in this world, Satan, no doubt, will rage moſt horribly againſt you. Watch and pray that you enter not into temptation. Your caſe, GOD willing, I intend to publiſh in my next journal. It is good to keep cloſe the ſecrets of a king, but it is honourable to ſpeak of the works of the LORD. That GOD may carry on and finiſh the good work begun in your ſoul, is the hearty prayer of

Your affectionate friend and brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER LXXXIX.

Dear Miſs B. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

THOUGH, when I came firſt to London, I thought you had not made the progreſs which might be expected in the twelve months, for want of company; yet your laſt behaviour gave me reaſon to think that you was yet alive to GOD. Oh, dear Miſs B——, do not ſlumber or ſleep, but be always trimming your ſpiritual lamp, knowing you are ſhortly to meet the Bridegroom. Study to ſhew the ſimplicity of JESUS CHRIST, and ſtrive to imitate thoſe holy matrons, who not only adminiſtred to our LORD of their ſubſtance, but alſo followed him to the accurſed tree. Love, love to JESUS, caſts out fear. No doubt they were reproached for his name ſake, and accounted mad women; but they had a faith which enabled them at that time to overcome the world, and by which they climbed up to heaven. May dear *Miſs B*—— be thus minded! And may I ſee her at the laſt day amongſt the wiſe virgins! Cultivating an acquaintance with *Miſs D*——, and the *Miſs C——'s*, will be a ſtep towards bringing you thither.

Dear *Miſs B*——, I am your friend and ſervant

G. W.

LETTER XC.

To my Brother.

Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1739.

THOUGH I have wrote now for ſome years to my dear brother, and have availed nothing, yet I cannot ceaſe ſtriving with him; who knows but at length the Almighty may remove the ſcales from his eyes, and enable him to ſee the want of a Redeemer. Indeed, my dear brother, you do not ſee it yet, becauſe you do not feel it; your moral honeſty and good nature deceives you. You think you are rich, and increaſed in goods, and do not conſider that you are poor and miſerable, blind and naked. You are ſelf-righteous, and do not rely on the righteouſneſs of the God-Man, CHRIST JESUS, for ſalvation. What would I give was my dear brother convinced of this? For, till he is convinced, he is miſerable, and does not know it. I pray GOD to open your eyes with a ſenſe of his love. Send me a line to *Georgia*. GOD has ſent us a comfortable paſſage. In about a twelvemonth I expect to return. Be not ſurpriſed if you hear of my being more caſt out. We muſt ſuffer, as well as do, for CHRIST. If you are one of his you will rejoice

Your affectionate brother,

G. W.

LETTER XCI.

To Madam M——.

Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1739.

I Cannot think of the repeated aſſiſtances you gave me by the loan of your coach, and at the ſame time forbear ſending you a line of thanks. But what is of greater concern, I think it my duty to write to you about a more important affair; I mean the ſalvation of your precious and immortal ſoul. GOD was pleaſed to incline your heart, Madam, to hear and receive the word with joy. Neither the cares of the world, nor the deceitfulneſs of riches, I truſt have been permitted to choak, and hinder the growth of it in your ſoul. Indeed, Madam, you cannot be too watchful. It is a bleſſed, and careful thing, to be a true Chriſtian. The firſt ſtep to it

is

is a broken heart, a heart melted down with a ſenſe of ſin, and flying to JESUS CHRIST for righteouſneſs, ſanctification and eternal redemption. Thouſands indeed place chriſtianity in good deſires, and the having good deſires; but this and much more a perſon may have, and yet miſcarry at laſt. Pure and undefiled religion conſiſts in a lively faith in JESUS CHRIST, as the only mediator between GOD and man. A faith that changes and renews the whole ſoul, takes it entirely off the world, and fixes it wholly upon GOD. This, Madam, is the faith that you have ſo often heard me preach, and of which I pray GOD you may be a partaker. Though you have it not yet, you need not deſpair; GOD will give it to all who ſincerely aſk of him. It is true, Madam, that not many mighty are called; but it is not your riches ſhall keep you from heaven if you truly believe on the LORD JESUS. Faith in him will enable you to overcome the world, and cauſe you even to triumph over the luſt of the eye and the pride of life. Faith will ſet you above the fear of man, and enable you to rejoice in being accounted a fool for CHRIST's ſake. That GOD may impart this faith to your own, and little maſter's ſoul, is the hearty prayer of, Madam,

Your obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER XCII.

Dear brother H. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Congratulate you on your ſucceſs at *Monmouth*. GOD has yet further work for you to do, ere you are called before rulers and governors, for his name ſake. By divine permiſſion, in about a twelve-month, I hope to make a ſecond uſe of your field pulpits. Our principles agree, as face anſwers to face in the water. Since I ſaw you, GOD has been pleaſed to enlighten me more in that comfortable doctrine of *Election*, &c. At my return, I hope to be more explicit than I have been. GOD forbid, my dear brother, that we ſhould ſhun to declare the whole counſel of GOD. The people of *Wales* are much upon my heart. I long to hear how the Goſpel flouriſhes among you. How proſpers your inward man? Being always doing, no doubt you grow in

grace. May you increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD! You will ſee my letters to *Mr. Jones*, &c. As faſt as I can, the reſt of our Welch friends ſhall hear from me. Oh that I may never forget their works of faith and labours of love! Salute them moſt affectionately in my name; and exhort them, my dear brother, to contend earneſtly for the faith once delivered to the ſaints. Put them in mind of the freeneſs and eternity of GOD's electing love, and be inſtant with them, to lay hold on the perfect righteouſneſs of JESUS CHRIST by faith. Talk to them, oh talk to them, even till midnight, of the riches of his all-ſufficient grace. Tell them, oh tell them, what he has done for their ſouls, and how earneſtly he is now interceding for them in heaven. Shew them in the map of the word, the kingdoms of the upper world, and the tranſcendent glories of them; and aſſure them all ſhall be theirs, if they believe on JESUS CHRIST with their whole hearts. Preſs them to believe on him immediately. Interſperſe prayers with your exhortations, and thereby call down fire from heaven, even the fire of the Holy Ghoſt,

To ſoften, ſweeten and refine,
And melt them into love.

Speak every time, my dear brother, as if it was your laſt; weep out, if poſſible, every argument, and as it were compel them to cry, Behold how he loveth us. Remember me, Remember me in your prayers, as being ever, ever

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER XCIII.

To Mr. and Mrs. D——.

My dear Friends, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

WHEN I conſider how conſtantly you attended my miniſtry, how gladly you received me into your houſe, and how affectionately you took your laſt farewell; methinks gratitude obliges me to ſend you a line. It hath often given me pleaſure to ſee in what harmony you ſeem to live, and how you walked to hear the word of GOD as friends. Surely, thought I, theſe are a happy pair. Theſe I truſt are

help-meets

help-meets for each other. Oh that you may go on and prosper, and be plentifully rewarded for the favours shewn to me, the most unprofitable of our LORD's servants: he will not forget your works of faith and labours of love. Whenever you attend his word preached, I hope he will send you repleniſhed away. Oh that all knew what it is to believe in JESUS! How soon would they renounce the world, take up their cross and follow him! LORD evermore give us all this faith, even a faith working by love; a faith that will enable us to overcome the world, and cause us to shake off all fear of man. Pray give my due respects to your friend and his wife, who used to dine with us. I pray GOD sanctify you all in spirit, soul and body, and cause you to sit down on his right hand with

Your affectionate, though most unworthy,
Friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER XCIV.

To the Rev. Mr. P——.

Reverend Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

YOU may justly censure me as unkind for not answering your kind letter. I can only plead by way of excuse an hurry of business, and my sudden departure from *England.* At my return, GOD willing, I purpose to see *Newbury*, and there to preach the Gospel of the Prince of Peace. Perhaps my enemies may have so much power given them from above, as to confine my body: but if I am bound, the word of the LORD will not be bound. GOD will speak, and great shall be the company of preachers. It often rejoices me to think what a prospect we have once again of hearing the truth preached as it is in JESUS. I hope we shall catch fire from each other, and that there will be an holy emulation amongst us, who shall most debase man and exalt the LORD JESUS. Nothing but the doctrines of the Reformation can do this. All others leave freewill in man, and make him, in part at least, a Saviour to himself. My soul come not near the secret of those who teach such things, mine honour be not

not thou united to them. I know CHRIST is all in all. Man is nothing: he hath a free will to go to hell, but none to go heaven, till GOD worketh in him to will and to do after his good pleasure. It is GOD must prevent, GOD must accompany, GOD must follow with his grace, or JESUS CHRIST will bleed in vain. That GOD may continue his blessing to us both, is the hearty prayer of, reverend and dear Sir,

Your obliged brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER XCV.

Dear Mr. ——, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

WAS not my heart with your heart, when we rode by the way and talked to each other concerning the Scriptures? I thought our souls tallied together, and that we had both drank of the same spirit. I have often, since that time, admired the grace of GOD in you, and even now feel my soul, whilst I am writing, intimately united with yours. What is all this, but the effect and fruit of GOD's everlasting love through CHRIST our LORD? What is it, but an instance of the sovereign will and good pleasure of GOD, who will have mercy on whom he will have mercy? Oh how doth the free, the distinguishing grace of GOD excite the love of those, who are made partakers of it! What was there in you and in me, dear *Mr. O*——, that should move GOD to chuse us before others? Was there any fitness foreseen in us, except a fitness for damnation? I believe not. No, GOD chose us from eternity, he called us in time, and I am persuaded will keep us from falling finally, till time shall be no more. Consider the Gospel in this view, and it appears a consistent scheme, though directly contrary to the natural man; and nothing convinces me more of the truth of these doctrines, than the enmity that is in the heart of carnal minds against them. However, the power of GOD is able to pull down every thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST. Henceforward I hope I shall speak boldly and plainly as I ought to speak, and not fail to declare the whole counsel of GOD. I pray daily, that I may know his will more perfectly, not only that I may do it myself, but

that

that I may teach it to others. If I die for it, I cannot but ſpeak the things which I know. Oh my dear friends, lift up your hands for me in the ſanctuary. The prayers of the faithful, GOD will hear. Entreat the ſame favour of your brother. I love you both in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, and remember you often when I go in and out before the LORD: He has been with us in the ſhip. His rod has corrected, his ſtaff has comforted us; both his rod and ſtaff have edified and ſtrengthened our ſouls. In a year's time I hope to ſee *England*. My love to all friends, and beſeech them to pray that I may be prepared for whatever awaits

Your affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER XCVI.

To Mrs. Ann D.

My dear Siſter in CHRIST, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Owe you ſeveral letters, I will pay you one now; have patience with me and I will pay you all. If any one ought to long to enjoy the communion of ſaints hereafter, I ought in a particular manner. GOD has highly favoured me in the acquaintance of numbers of his deareſt children. I cannot ſee ſome, and to but few of them can I write, on account of other buſineſs. Haſten, O LORD, that bleſſed time, when we ſhall all ſit down to eat bread in thy kingdom!—My dear Siſter, pray that I may patiently wait till my change ſhall come. I want to leap my ſeventy years. I long to be diſſolved to be with CHRIST. Sometimes it ariſes from a fear of falling, knowing what a body of ſin I carry about me. Sometimes, from a proſpect of future labours and ſufferings, I am out of humour, and wiſh for death as *Elijah* did: At others, I am tempted, and then I long to be freed from temptations. But it is not thus always: There are times when my ſoul hath ſuch foretaſtes of GOD, that I long more eagerly to be with him; and the frequent proſpect of the happineſs which the ſpirits of juſt men made perfect now enjoy, often carries me as it were into another world. Many ſuch ſweet meditations hath my ſoul been favoured with; but in the midſt of all, I have felt, and do feel, that I am the chief of ſinners. A myſtery of iniquity

quity that lay in my heart undiſcovered, has been opened to my view, ſince my retirement in the ſhip. May he enlighten me more and more, to know and feel the myſtery of his electing, ſoul-transforming love. Nothing like that, to ſupport us under preſent, and all the various future trials which await us. But the LORD has apprehended us, and will not let us go. Men and devils may do their worſt; our JESUS will ſuffer nothing to pluck us out of his Almighty hands; for he has loved us with an everlaſting love, and therefore his right-hand ſhall uphold us. By his aſſiſtance, we ſhall hold out to the end. By his grace, I, you, and all his choſen ones ſhall finally be ſaved. Then, my dear Siſter, ſhall we converſe, not with ink and paper, but face to face. Then, but not till then, ſhall we fully know what a legion of devils JESUS CHRIST hath caſt out of our ſouls, and how, after all our ſtrivings againſt, and quenching many of the motions of his ſpirit, he at laſt brought us to glory. Ceaſe not to pray for

Your unworthy brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER XCVII.

To the Rev. Mr. R.

My dear Brother R. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

BEFORE I left *England*, I heard of your progreſs in *Leiceſterſhire* and *Nottingham*. I then rejoiced, yea, and I do now rejoice that GOD hath ſent you forth into his vineyard. I wiſh you all imaginable ſucceſs with my whole heart. The next news I hear from *England*, I ſuppoſe, will inform me of your ſuffering, as well as preaching for CHRIST. But I am perſuaded a proſpect of ſuffering does not damp, but excite the zeal of my dear fellow-labourer. He lives in a place where honeſt *John Bunyan* was a priſoner of the LORD for twelve years. And oh, what ſweet communion did he enjoy in *Bedford* gaol! I really believe a miniſter will learn more by one month's confinement, than by a year's ſtudy. Preſs on then, my dear Brother, preſs on and faint not; ſpeak till you can ſpeak no more. Wait upon the LORD, and you ſhall renew your ſtrength. Though ſometimes faint, yet ſtill purſue. Up and be doing, and the LORD be with you. See how the fields

are

are white, every where ready to harveſt. See how our LORD's ſheep are ſcattered abroad, having too, too few true ſhepherds; I beſeech you, go on, and point out to them the Redeemer's good paſtures. Say not, wherewithal ſhall I feed them? The great ſhepherd ſhall furniſh you with food enough, and to ſpare. Give of your loaves, and you ſhall take up of the fragments that remain. To him that hath, ſhall be given. Satan no doubt will reſiſt you; he will bid you, out of a falſe humility, to hold your peace; but let my friend ſpeak out boldly as he ought to ſpeak. The Holy Spirit will give him utterance, and apply the word to the hearers. If prayers may water the good ſeed, you may depend on mine. I remember the dear *Bedford* people. O let them not forget

Your poor weak brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER XCVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. T.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

BEFORE I ſaw, I loved you. Ever ſince our perſonal acquaintance, I have often thought, what a noble inſtrument you might be of turning many to righteouſneſs, if your heart was entirely freed from the world, and inflamed with the love of GOD. Your vivacity of ſpirit, your warm imagination, the energy and ſtrength of your endearing manner of writing, together with your loving, tender diſpoſition, if once duly influenced by the ſpirit of GOD, could not fail of winning ſouls to CHRIST. Come out therefore my brother, my friend; come out from among your carnal connections, and "be thou ſeparate," ſaith the LORD Almighty. Throw off a falſe politeneſs, ſtudy the ſimplicity of JESUS CHRIST, and be deſpiſed for ſomething. *O pity, pity the church of* England. See how too, too many of her ſons are fallen from her articles, and preach themſelves, not CHRIST JESUS the LORD. My dear friend, I could wiſh my head was waters, and my eyes fountains of tears, that I might weep day and night before the LORD. O let us beſeech him to ſpirit up more of his faithful ſervants, to go out into the highways and hedges, and compel poor ſinners to come in. Oh that dear Mr. *T.* may be one of them!

them! How would the ſpirit of CHRIST and of glory reſt upon his ſoul! Ariſe, ariſe, my dear brother, and gird up the loins of your mind. Ariſe, ariſe, and be not of the number of thoſe who only fleece their flocks. Lift up your voice like a trumpet, and preach the truth as it is in JESUS. Dear Mr. *T.* forgive this freedom. My heart is full. I long to have the pure ſcripture truths, as delivered in our homilies and our articles, preached up univerſally. This is all that is contended for, by

Your moſt unworthy friend, brother, and ſervant
in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER XCIX.

To the Rev. Mr. D. W.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Love you, though I have been ſo ungrateful as not to write to you. I love you in the bowels of our common Maſter whoſe name we bear, and in whoſe glorious ſervice we are both employed. Oh, dear Sir, what are we that we ſhould be ſo highly favoured! Why are we honoured? Why are we called to the miniſtry, and others that are effectually called by grace, yet advanced no higher than private chriſtians? I can only cry out, Oh the depth of GOD's ſovereign, electing, unmerited love. Even ſo Father, for ſo it ſeemed good in thy ſight! Surely, dear Sir, the love of CHRIST muſt conſtrain us to ſpend and be ſpent for the good of ſouls. Never was the harveſt greater; never were the labourers fewer. If we do not now lift up our voices like trumpets, the very ſtones would cry out againſt us. I could almoſt ſay, "the glory is departed from *Iſrael*; the ark of the LORD is fallen into enemies hands." Oh let us endeavour, dear Sir, let us endeavour to bring it back, by preaching and living the truth as it is in JESUS. The light that has been given us, is not to be put under a buſhel, but on a candleſtick. Satan, indeed, by blaſts of perſecution, will do all he can to put it out. If our light be the light of CHRIST, thoſe blaſts will only cauſe it to ſhine the brighter. You have happily, dear Sir, experienced this. You, I believe, was both in CHRIST and in the miniſtry

miniſtry before me. I præ, ſequar, etſi non paſſibus equis. The devil and all his hoſts will ſet their battle in array againſt us. My LORD has given me a ſling and a ſtone; ſtripling as I am, I will go forth then in his ſtrength, make mention of his righteouſneſs only, and by that lay proſtrate the ſtrong *Goliahs*. By your prayers I truſt to be ſent to *Wales* once more. The ſimplicity of that people much delights me. What ſhall, what can I do for them? My prayers they have, and whatever GOD ſhall enable me to do, they may demand a ſhare from, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER C.

To the Rev. Mr. H.

Dear Mr. H. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Received no anſwer to my laſt, yet I muſt write to you again. The many happy hours I ſpent with you when at *Oxon*, and the benefit I have received from your inſtructions and example, are yet freſh upon my memory. I long to have my dear friend come forth, and preach the truth as it is in JESUS. Not a righteouſneſs or inward holineſs of our own, whereby we may make ourſelves meet, but a righteouſneſs of another, even the LORD our righteouſneſs; upon the imputation and apprehending of which by faith, we ſhall be made meet by his Holy Spirit to live with, and to enjoy GOD. Dear Mr. *H.* it is an excellent thing to be convinced of the freeneſs and riches of GOD's grace in CHRIST JESUS. It is ſweet to know and preach, that CHRIST juſtifies the ungodly, and that all truly good works are not ſo much as partly the cauſe, but the *effect* of our juſtification before GOD. Till convinced of theſe truths, you muſt own free-will in man, which is directly contrary to the holy ſcriptures, and the articles of our church. Let me adviſe dear Mr. *H.* laying aſide all prejudice, to read and pray over Saint *Paul*'s epiſtles to the *Romans* and *Galatians*, and then let him tell me what he thinks of this doctrine. Moſt of your old friends are now happily enlightened. GOD ſets his ſeal to ſuch preaching in an extraordinary manner, and I am perſuaded the gates of hell ſhall never be able to prevail againſt

againſt it. Oh that dear Mr. *H.* would alſo join with us! Oh that the LORD would open his eyes to behold aright this part of the myſtery of godlineſs! How would it rejoice my heart! How would it comfort his own ſoul! He would then no longer groan under the ſpirit of bondage: No, he would be brought into the glorious liberty of the ſons of GOD. I have wrote to dear Mr. *O.* as well as to you, out of the ſimplicity of my heart.

Ever your's in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CI.

To the Rev. Mr. K.

Dear Brother K. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Long to hear how it is with you, and the church in your houſe. I verily believe, though it is but a little flock, yet it will be our heavenly Father's good pleaſure to give you the kingdom. How happy is it, when all are of one mind in a houſe; all agreed to entertain and love the LORD JESUS. Their heaven is begun on earth. I pray GOD to continue this bleſſing, and cauſe you daily to build up each other in the knowledge of our LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST. He is a gracious Maſter. Oh that I knew and loved him more! for he is altogether lovely. Has he yet revealed himſelf in dear Mr. *K.*'s heart? Is he aſſured that his beloved is his? Is he brought into the glorious liberty of the children of GOD? Is his mind free from ſcruples? Is he active? Is he punctual? Is he ſtrong in the LORD and in the power of his might? Is the meekneſs of the lamb and the boldneſs of the lion blended in his ſoul? Do his pariſhioners fear, yet love him? Is he a *Boanerges*, and yet a *Barnabas* in the church of GOD? Does he thunder againſt obſtinate ſinners, and by diſplaying the riches of the promiſes, comfort and build up the ſaints? Does he preach as the ſpirit gives him utterance? Can he rely on the promiſe, "Lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world?"

Forgive this freedom, my dear brother. Love makes me thus impertinent. I want to ſee you perfect, entire, lacking nothing. May GOD from day to day ſupply what is ſtill deficient

cient in you and in me, till we come to the fulneſs of the meaſure of the ſtature of CHRIST. He is faithful that has promiſed. GOD has been gracious to me his ſervant. In about a twelvemonth, I hope you will again ſee and rejoice with

Your affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CII.

Dear Mrs. F. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

THE LORD reward you for all your works of faith and labours of love! They ſhall be brought forth as ſo many evidences of your lively faith, when we meet before our LORD in judgment. Does not the proſpect of that glorious day, often fill your ſoul with joy? It does mine. Why? Becauſe I know my Redeemer is to be my judge. Satan will accuſe me; my anſwer ſhall be, the LORD JESUS is my righteouſneſs, how dareſt thou to lay any thing to the charge of GOD's Elect? I ſtand here not in my own, but his robes; and though I deſerve nothing as a debt, yet I know he will give me a reward of grace, and recompence me for what he has done in and by me, as though I had done it by my own power. Oh, dear Mrs. *F.* how ought this to excite our zeal and love for the holy JESUS. Why ſhould we deſire to plead for a righteouſneſs of our own, and cry up freewill, when we have an infinitely better righteouſneſs than our own to appear in, and a GOD that will crown us with eternal glory for working in us both to will and to do after his good pleaſure? Happy are you and your's, that have been taught theſe glorious principles from your youth! Oh ſhew them forth more and more by your works, and let the world ſee what it is to have a faith working by love. Study, oh ſtudy, day by day, the ſimplicity of JESUS CHRIST. Caſt away every thing from you that ſavours of the luſt of the eye and pride of life. Be quick to hear, ſlow to ſpeak, and let your converſation always be ſeaſoned with grace. Oh, dear Mrs. *F.* my heart is enlarged towards you: My kind, my liberal hoſteſs, what ſhall I ſay or do to expreſs my gratitude? I will, I do ſpeak for you to the king of kings. Though I am ſo great a ſinner, he frequently admits me into his privy chamber, and then I often ſigh out, "O that my dear *Hertford* friends may live

before thee." This is all the return, dear Mrs. *F.* that I can make. It is a prophet's reward. Being my all, though but two mites, I know you will accept it from

Your moſt obliged friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CIII.

To Mr. S.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Rejoice that GOD ſent you ſo opportunely to *Monmouth:* I find every day that two are better than one. GOD ſuffers his dear children to fall into little miſcarriages, that the eye may not ſay to the hand, "I have no need of thee;" or again, the head to the foot, "I have no need of thee." We muſt be helps to each other on this ſide eternity. Nothing gives me more comfort, next to the aſſurance of the eternal continuance of GOD's love, than the pleaſing reflection of having ſo many chriſtian friends to watch with my ſoul. I wiſh they would ſmite me friendly, and reprove me oftner than they do; I would force my proud heart to thank them. But I am amazed at your coming off ſo triumphantly. Surely the devil is aſleep, or rather that roaring lion thinks to break out upon us with double fury hereafter. It often ſhames me, when I read St. *Paul*'s account of his ſufferings, to think in how few particulars I can as yet ſympathize with him. It as often makes me long to be like him, and yet I fear how I ſhall act when put to the trial. This, however, is my comfort, "JESUS CHRIST the ſame yeſterday, to-day, and for ever." He ſaw me from all eternity; he gave me being; he called me in time; he has freely juſtified me through faith in his blood; he has in part ſanctified me by his ſpirit; he will preſerve me underneath his everlaſting arms, till time ſhall be no more. Oh the bleſſedneſs of theſe evangelical truths! Theſe are indeed goſpel; they are glad tidings of great joy to all that have ears to hear. Theſe, bring the creature out of himſelf. Theſe, make him to hang upon the promiſes, and cauſe his obedience to flow from a principle of love. They are meat indeed, and drink indeed unto my ſoul. I am perſuaded they are ſo likewiſe

wife to you and dear Mrs. *S*——. I hope she is yet in the land of the living, and that she, yourself, and your son, are daily preparing for eternity. I pray GOD sanctify your whole spirits, souls, and bodies, and reward you for all kindnesses shewn to, dear Sir,

Your unworthy brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CIV.

To the Rev. Mr. T.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

SHALL I promise and not perform? GOD forbid. When I saw you first at *Cardiff*, it rejoiced my heart to hear what GOD had done for your soul. You was then under some displeasure of your rector, if I mistake not, for speaking the truth as it is in JESUS. Ere now, I hope dear Mr. *T.* has had the honour of being quite thrust out. Rejoice, my dear brother, and be exceeding glad, for thus was our LORD and SAVIOUR served before you. Naked therefore follow a naked CHRIST. Freely you have received, freely give. If you preach the gospel, you shall live of the gospel. Though you go out without scrip or shoe, yet shall you lack nothing. Rather than you shall want, ravens, those birds of prey, shall be commanded to feed you. It is a blessed thing to live upon GOD. Did ever any trust in him and was forsaken? No; search the generations of old, climb up into heaven if you can, and all with one consent will declare,

The LORD *their pasture did prepare,*
And fed them with a shepherd's care.

I, though hell-deserving, am a living witness of his good providence; having nothing, I possess all things; he has fed me with the kidneys of wheat, and commanded some one or another to sustain me whithersoever I was sent on his errand. JESUS is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. If we go forth in the spirit of the first apostles, we shall meet with apostolical success. And never was there more occasion for the revival of such a primitive spirit. Alas, the life, the power

of religion is almoſt loſt amongſt us. Stir up then, dear Sir, the gift of GOD, which is in you. Be inſtant in ſeaſon and out of ſeaſon. Debaſe man and exalt JESUS. Self-righteouſneſs overturn, overturn. The people of *Wales*, the common people at leaſt, will receive you gladly. The LORD ſhall fight all battles for you here, and reward you with a crown that never fadeth hereafter. If I have but the loweſt place in your affections, it will abundantly ſatisfy

Your moſt affectionate brother,

G. W.

LETTER CV.

To Mr. M.

Deareſt Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

EVER ſince you opened your heart ſo freely in the garden, you have been much upon my heart. Though abſent from, yet I have been preſent with you. I am acquainted in ſome meaſure with the ſtrugglings of a ſoul juſt awakening into new life. I know too many have ſtifled their convictions, and therefore am importunate on your behalf. I hope you have taken my advice, and laid the ax to the root of the tree. Oh pray for a new heart and a new ſpirit, and then all old things will ſubſide and give way of themſelves. The ſtrong man armed muſt go out when the ſtronger than he, even the ſpirit of GOD, comes to take poſſeſſion of your ſoul. What therefore have you to do, dear Sir, but to throw yourſelf as a poor ſinner at the feet of the holy JESUS? You need not doubt his holding out the golden ſceptre to you. Whoſoever cometh to him by faith, he will in no-wiſe caſt out. He calls, he draws you: what is it for, but to aſſure you he will make you happy? Come then, dear Sir, weary and heavy laden as you are, the LORD your righteouſneſs ſhall give you reſt: He ſhall refreſh you with a multitude of peace, and cauſe you to rejoice in his ſalvation; there is nothing too hard for the LORD CHRIST. He can draw your mind from the creature, he can fix it upon himſelf; he can enable you to live above the world, whilſt you are in it; he can tranſlate you to heaven, when he has taken you away from earth. As the

LORD

LORD JESUS can, so that he may do all these things for your soul, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your sincere friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CVI.

To the Rev. Mr. H.

Reverend and dearest Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

IT often concerned me, when in *London*, that I could not enjoy more of your company. Your conversation was always seasoned with grace, and such as became the gospel of CHRIST. Your great kindness, in publicly praying for me, can never be sufficiently acknowledged. The thought almost makes me to weep for joy. Surely the LORD will not let me miscarry, since he has stirred up the choicest of his servants to intercede in my behalf. The searcher of all hearts alone knows, what agonies my poor soul has undergone since my retirement from the world. The remembrance of my past sins has overwhelmed my soul, and caused tears to be my meat day and night. Indeed I have mourned as one mourneth for a first born: But I looked to him whom I have pierced. I was enabled to see the freeness and riches of his grace, the infiniteness and eternity of his love, and my soul received comfort. Oh the excellency of the doctrine of election, and of the saints final perseverance, to those who are truly sealed by the spirit of promise! I am persuaded, till a man comes to believe and feel these important truths, he cannot come out of himself; but when convinced of these, and assured of the application of them to his own heart, he then walks by faith indeed, not in himself, but in the Son of GOD, who died and gave himself for him. Love, not fear, constrains him to obedience. The promises of GOD are all Yea and Amen to his soul. Supported by these convictions, in about a twelvemonth, GOD willing, I intend returning to *England*, and to begin my testimony afresh. I trust I shall not be ashamed to declare the whole counsel of GOD. Satan, no doubt, and his emissaries, will endeavour to block up my way; but the saints of GOD are praying for me on earth, and the holy JESUS is interceding in heaven. Why should I

not go forth and offer his everlasting and perfect righteousness to all that shall be brought to believe on him? Satan suggests even whilst I am writing, "How canst thou speak, seeing thou art such a sinner?" But therefore will I speak, because I can say, by happy experience, that JESUS CHRIST will have mercy on the chief of sinners; for among such you may truly rank

Your unworthy brother, and unprofitable fellow-labourer, in our dear LORD's vineyard,

G. W.

LETTER CVII.

Dear Mrs. D. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

TEN thousand blessings light upon you and yours! The LORD reward you ten thousand-fold for receiving me and my friends into your house. The LORD shower down his heavenly manna, and feed you with the bread of life for those comfortable meals we have had of your providing since we came on board. We have not been slack to pray for you; my heart is now full of a sense of your kindnesses. I know not when to begin and when to leave off adoring the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST for these and all other of his love-tokens: He is the father of mercies, and the GOD of all comfort; he hath comforted me in all my tribulation, and, I am assured, will still comfort me in whatsoever I am to do or suffer for his name's sake. You, dear Mrs. *D.* can subscribe to this truth, that GOD is a God of all comfort. You have been comforted on every side; you have been filled as it were with new wine; you have tasted that the LORD is gracious, and yet the best wine is and will be always reserved till the last. The LORD's compassions fail not; they are, they will be renewed to you every morning; and though, through much tribulation, you, as well others, must enter into glory, yet you will find GOD to be your comforter in all tribulation. GOD has made you a joyful mother of christian children; remember the mother in the *Maccabees*; and, if ever your children are called to suffering, beg of GOD that you may stand by and encourage them to die for CHRIST. Oh that would be a spectacle indeed! A spectacle worthy of men and

and angels! I pray GOD to arm you with this mind, and then you will find that GOD's rod as well as his ſtaff will comfort you; nay, though you paſs through the valley of the ſhadow of death, yet ſhall the Holy Spirit refreſh you; your heart ſhall ſtand faſt, and be ſtedfaſt in the LORD. Oh, my dear Madam, my heart is enlarged towards you: I pray GOD to fill you with all his divine fulneſs, and make you daily more and more meet to be an inheritor among the ſaints in light. With much love I have wrote to dear Mr. *D.* Oh pray him not to be angry with

Your moſt affectionate friend and brother,

G. W.

LETTER CVIII.

To Mr. N.

Honoured Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

BE not diſpleaſed at the contents of this; if I was not perſuaded that love to your ſoul, and my duty towards GOD, moved me to write, I ſhould be ſilent. When laſt at *Glouceſter*, I heard you was highly offended at my meetings in the fields, and at the ſame time countenanced and encouraged the acting of plays in the *Boothall.* This I thought highly unbecoming the character of a chriſtian magiſtrate, whoſe peculiar buſineſs it is to be a terror to evil doers, and a praiſe to them that do well. This made me to ſpeak againſt thoſe proceedings in my ſermons. This is the occaſion of my troubling you with a letter. I cannot think I have delivered my ſoul, unleſs, with all meekneſs and humility, I exhort you henceforward not to promote or ſo much as any way countenance the ſtage-players. In our common law they are ſtiled *ſturdy beggars.* As a miniſter of the king, upon that account it is your duty to put a ſtop to them: As a diſciple and miniſter of JESUS CHRIST, the king of kings, you are obliged, *honoured Sir*, to exert your authority in ſuppreſſing them. It is notorious that ſuch meetings are the nurſeries of debauchery; they are the peſt of our nation, and the bane of true chriſtianity: To be preſent at, or in the leaſt to contribute towards their ſupport, is therefore a great ſin; but to countenance them by our authority, and let them act by our permiſſion, what is this

but becoming public patrons for vice and immorality? It is not only sinning ourselves, but it is taking pleasure in the sins of others. This the apostle accounted the highest pitch of heathenish wickedness. Honoured Sir, pray be not offended: These are not the words of a madman; no, they are the words of truth and soberness, and words which our LORD will approve of, when I stand with you before him in judgment. However men may now put wrong names to things, and call that an innocent amusement, which has no other tendency but to corrupt and debauch the heart, yet then, Sir, we shall see all things clearly; then shall you know that it was my duty to write as I have done, and will confess before men and angels that you had an humble and affectionate warning given you, by, honoured Sir,

Your very humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER CIX.

To Mr. Thomas P.

Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

THOUGH unknown to you in person, yet as you was pleased to think me worthy of the care of your dear son, I think it my duty to acquaint you of his welfare. I bless GOD that he came with me. He is diligent and pious, and I trust will be a comfort to you in your declining years: His mind seems settled and composed, and by reading and following the bible, he is partaker of that peace which the world cannot give. His dear and honoured father is much upon his heart. How would it rejoice him to hear that you also was become a christian indeed? Be not offended, dear Sir, at my expressing myself thus. Assure yourself that christianity is something more than a name and a bare outward profession. Morality of itself, dear Sir, will never carry us to heaven; no, JESUS CHRIST is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no being happy without a lively faith in him, wrought in the heart by the blessed spirit of GOD. This faith transforms the whole man, delivers him from the tyranny of his passions, and makes him entirely a new creature. This is the reason why it is foolishness to the world. Your son's case in this respect

was

was not singular. As soon as ever we commence christians, we commence fools for CHRIST's sake. Every truly religious man must be deemed a madman. Forgive this freedom, dear Sir; whilst I am writing, I find a love for your soul arising in my heart, and methinks I could do any thing to bring your grey hairs with comfort to the grave. Dear Sir, there is mercy with CHRIST even for those who come in at the eleventh hour. CHRIST came to save poor sinners; he came to save you, dear Sir, if you lay hold on him by a living faith. That GOD may give you this faith, and thereby make you happy in time and to eternity, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your obliged friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CX.

To the Rev. Mr. R. D.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Think I am a little in your debt; if not, love and gratitude call upon me to send you a line. Man appoints, but GOD disappoints: His providence called me away, before I could possibly see *Cornwall.* In about a twelvemonth I purpose returning. Who knows but then I may be enabled to perform my promise? The whole world is now my parish. Wheresoever my master calls me, I am ready to go and preach his everlasting gospel. My only grief is, that I can do no more for CHRIST; for I am sure I ought to love and do much, having had so much forgiven; not that I expect in the least to be justified by any or all the works I either can or shall do: No, the LORD CHRIST is my righteousness, my whole and perfect righteousness; but then I would shew forth my faith, I would declare to the world the sincerity of my love, by always abounding in the works of my LORD. Oh pray, dear Sir, that I may be never weary in well-doing. The devil and his servants will shoot sore at me that I may fall; but this consideration comforts and supports me, "The LORD is my helper;" he has, he does, he will deliver. I am persuaded you feel his gracious presence, and the influences of his blessed spirit, whenever you go forth to speak in his name. May a double portion of his spirit and precious anointings descend upon

upon your soul! May you be filled with all his fulness, and be enabled thereby to turn many to righteousness here, and so shine as the firmament of heaven for ever hereafter! Oh that a place at some saints feet may be assigned to, dear Sir,

Your weak though affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXI.

To the Rev. Mr. B.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

YOU have been too kind, and I have been too ungrateful. Business would not permit me to have so much private conversation with you as I ought. Success I fear elated my mind. I did not behave towards you, and other ministers of CHRIST, with that humility which became me. I freely confess my fault; I own myself to be but a novice. Your charity, dear Sir, will excite you to pray that I may not through pride fall into the condemnation of the devil. Dear Sir, shall I come out into the world again or not? Must I venture myself once more among fire-brands, arrows, and death? Methinks I hear you reply, "Yes, if you come forth in the strength of the LORD GOD, and make mention of his righteousness only." It is my desire so to do. I would have JESUS all in all. Like a pure chrystal, I would transmit all the light he poureth upon me. Oh pray, dear Sir, that I may be thus minded, and then, GOD willing, in about a twelvemonth, I intend visiting the *Bristol* brethren once again. In the mean while, I hope the LORD will purge me, that I may bring forth more fruit, and work upon me mightily in the inner-man, for otherwise his blessings will prove curses to me. He has been pleased to dig and dung round me, during my retirement; he has shewn me something of the treachery of my own heart, and more and more convinced me that I am the chief of sinners. Oh that my heart may shew forth the eternity and sovereignty of his love! for never surely was there a greater instance of it than myself. Happy are those that are brought to an experimental knowledge of these mysteries of the kingdom of GOD. Many of your charge have been, I believe; I pray GOD to increase the number of your spiritual children more

and

and more, and to add daily to the church such as shall be saved. My cordial respects attend your fellow-labourers, and all who are so kind as to ask for me; as fast as opportunity permits, they may expect to hear from, reverend Sir,

Your unworthy brother and fellow-labourer,

G. W.

LETTER CXII.

Dear Mrs. F. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Have now time to answer your last letter. It gave me much satisfaction. I rejoice that you begin to know yourself. If possible, satan will make us to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think. I can tell this by fatal experience. It is not sudden flashes of joy, but having the humility of CHRIST JESUS, that must denominate us christians. If we hate reproof, we are so far from being true followers of the Lamb of GOD, that in the opinion of the wisest of men, we are brutish. I love you and your dear husband in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. Under GOD, I begot you both through the gospel. I therefore think it my bounden duty, from time to time, more particularly to watch over your precious souls. Never account me your enemy for speaking the truth. Tell me of my faults in your turn. I will pray GOD to give me an hearing ear and an obedient heart. But how do our brethren after their late dispersion? I heard they had in part recovered themselves. Ere now, I trust, they have resumed their courage, and stand stedfast as a wall of brass. If you were all to be carried to prison the next moment, I think you should not decline your christian fellowship and society meetings. My brethren, in this respect, I beseech you to obey GOD rather than man. Happy are you, if you patiently suffer in such a cause. Our LORD will stand by you; he will fight all your battles, and make you more than conquerors through his love. My heart would say more; but other letters must be wrote. Salute all the brethren by name, and accept this as a token of your not being forgotten by

Your affectionate brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXIII.

To the Rev. Mr. S.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

THE favours received at *Hertford*, from you and your dear flock, are not yet out of my mind: They were exceeding endearing, and deserve my utmost acknowledgments. Had providence permitted, I should have paid you another visit; but GOD's thoughts are not as our thoughts: However, in about a twelvemonth, by his leave, I hope to return amongst you once more. Oh! that I may come in the blessing of the gospel of peace! The doctrines I have already preached come with double evidence upon my mind day by day. I am more and more convinced that they are the truths of GOD; they agree with the written word, and the experience of all the saints in all ages: Nothing more confirms me in the belief of them, than the opposition that is made against them by natural men. Election, free grace, free justification without any regard to works foreseen, are such paradoxes to carnal minds, that they cannot away with them. This is the wisdom of GOD, which is foolishness with man, and which, the LORD being my helper, I intend to exalt and contend for more and more; not with carnal weapons, that be far from me, but with the sword of the spirit, the word of GOD: No sword like that. Dear Sir, pray for me that I may rightly divide the word of truth, and give to each his portion in due season. The LORD has been exceeding gracious to me since I saw you last. Oh let your songs be of him, and praise him for all his wonderful works. As I am enabled I remember you and yours. Many, when I was with them, were mourning; ere now I hope they are comforted. He is faithful who has promised, who also will do it. If they hunger and thirst after CHRIST's righteousness, verily they shall know that it is imputed to them. That you and your whole charge may be filled with all the fulness of GOD, is the earnest prayer of, dear Sir,

Your's most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXIV.

To Mr. Wm. D———.

My Dear Brother, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

YOUR laſt brought glad tidings. I endeavour to give thanks for you with my whole heart. I truſt GOD has enabled you to take the advice you gave me, and that you have been kept from idolatry. Oh my dear brother, let us watch and pray, that we may not be led into temptation. The ſpirit is willing in both; but the fleſh, mine in particular, is exceeding weak. Bleſſed be GOD for ſending me on ſhip-board. He has given me to ſee ſomething of that myſtery of iniquity, which was in my heart. I have loathed and abhorred my own ſelf. Tears have been my meat day and night; but glory be to GOD, who has lately aſſured me of a victory through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. At preſent my heart is quite free. You will ſee what I have written to thoſe of your houſehold. I pray the LORD to ſend you and many more ſuch labourers into his harveſt. I intend reſigning the parſonage of *Savannah*. Th *Orphan Houſe* I can take care of, ſuppoſing I ſhould be kept at a diſtance; beſides, when I have reſigned the pariſh, I ſhall be more at liberty to take a tour round *America*, if GOD ſhould ever call me to ſuch a work. However, I determine nothing, I wait on the LORD. I am perſuaded he will ſhew what is his will: though my heart is as yet perverſe, in time I hope to drink deeper into his ſpirit. How earneſtly do I deſire to be diſſolved, that I may be with CHRIST! Sometimes my weak body gives me hopes, that I ſhall not be long in the fleſh; but then, the ſtrength that is communicated to me, and the conſideration, that I have but juſt begun my teſtimony, fills me with fears, leſt I ſhould live to be greyheaded. But I endeavour to reſign myſelf wholly to GOD. I deſire his will may be done in me, by me, and upon me. If the LORD preſerves me from falling into ſin, and diſhonouring his holy name, let him do what ſeemeth him good with

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXV.

To Madam C———.

Madam, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

TO be made good by the righteouſneſs and ſpirit of JESUS CHRIST, is a diſtinguiſhing bleſſing. To be made good, and yet to be great and rich in this world's goods, is ſtill more extraordinary. Bleſſed be GOD, who has thus highly favoured you. I truſt he hath given you that faith, which enables you to overcome the world, and emboldens you to confeſs both our LORD and his ſervants, in the midſt of a wicked and adulterous generation. Once indeed I feared you had been offended. Dear Mr. M——— ſoon convinced me of my error. Yourſelf, Madam, amply ſatisfied me before I left *London*, that you were not aſhamed of the goſpel and miniſters of CHRIST. May the LORD enable you more and more to ſet your face as a flint, and entirely to live above the fear of man. If the work goes on in *England*, a trying time will come. I pray GOD, the ſame ſpirit may be found in all that profeſs the LORD JESUS, as was in the primitive ſaints, confeſſors and martyrs. Further oppoſition then will not hurt, but highly profit the church. The chaff will be winnowed from the wheat, and they that are approved be made manifeſt. As for my own part, I expect nothing but afflictions and bonds. The ſpirit, as well as the doctrine of popery, prevails much in many proteſtants hearts; they already breathe out threatnings. What wonder, if when in their power, they ſhould breathe out ſlaughters alſo? This is my comfort, the doctrines I have taught are the doctrines of ſcripture, the doctrines of our own and of other reformed churches. If I ſuffer for preaching them, ſo be it. "Thou ſhalt anſwer for me, O LORD my GOD!" I rejoice in the proſpect of it, and beſeech thee, my dear redeemer, to ſtrengthen me in a ſuffering hour. You, dear Madam, and the reſt of my friends, will not be wanting in praying for

Your moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXVI.

To Mr. D———.

Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

GRATITUDE and love call upon me to write a letter of acknowledgment for favours received when lately at ——. The LORD remember them at that day! You have confeſſed his ſervants before men, he has promiſed to confeſs ſuch, before his angels in heaven. The principles which I maintain, are purely ſcriptural, and every way agreeable to the church of *England* articles. What I have been chiefly concerned about is, leſt any ſhould reſt in the bare ſpeculative knowledge, and not experience the power of them in their own hearts.—What avails it, Sir, if I am a patron for the righteouſneſs of JESUS CHRIST in behalf of another, if at the ſame time I am ſelf-righteous myſelf? I am thus jealous, I truſt with a godly jealouſy, becauſe I ſee ſo many ſelf-deceivers among my acquaintance. There is one in particular (whom I love, and for whom I moſt heartily pray) who approves of my doctrine, and hath heard it preached many years paſt, but I could never hear him tell of his experiences, or of what GOD has done for his ſoul. He hath excellent good deſires and intentions, but I think he wants ſomething more: LORD, for thy infinite mercy's ſake, grant he may know himſelf even as he is known! I need not tell Mr. *D*———, who this dear friend is — you are intimately acquainted with him, you love him as you do your own heart; you are never out of his company. Oh, dear Sir, be not angry. Methinks I hear you, by this time, making an application, and ſaying, "Then I am the man." True, dear Sir, I confeſs you are. But love, love for your better part, your ſoul, your precious ſoul, this love conſtrains me to uſe this freedom. You are more noble than to take it ill at my hands; I could not bear even to ſuſpect that you deceived yourſelf, dear Sir, and not tell you ſuch a ſuſpicion was in my heart. That GOD may powerfully convince you of ſelf-righteouſneſs, and cloath you with the righteouſneſs of his dear Son; that he may fill you

with

with his grace, and thereby fit you for, and at last translate you to, his glory, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your most obliged and affectionate friend
and humble servant,
G. W.

LETTER CXVII.

To a Servant.

Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1739.

WHEN I was at Mr. ———, I fear I did not ask you often enough what GOD had done for your soul. I write this to beg your pardon. Want of time was the cause. I believe CHRIST hath manifested himself to your soul. Shew it, I entreat you, by labouring to adorn his gospel in all things. A meek and quiet spirit is in the sight of GOD of great price. You are happy in a place. I hope you know and are thankful for it. Take heed that you serve with singleness of heart, as unto CHRIST. Go when you are bid to go, come when you are bid to come; when commanded to do this, do it with all your might. Bear with the perverseness of others. Remember how silent *Mary* was, when her sister *Martha* peevishly said, "LORD, carest thou not that my sister has left me to serve alone?" My unfeigned love attends all the *Martha's* and *Mary's* of your acquaintance. I pray they may in all things walk as women professing godliness. To hear of your progress in the gospel, would much please

Your sincere friend and servant,
G. W.

LETTER CXVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. ———

Rev. and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

THE many favours I have received at your hands, are still deeply impressed upon my heart; as I have often said, so I say again, I hope they will never be forgotten by me so long as I live. But, reverend Sir, I have observed some particulars in your principles and conduct, which I must confess have given me much concern, and of which, from love and

gratitude, I think myself obliged to inform you. —— I believe, dear Sir, you have often been inwardly offended at me, because you suspected, I thought you to be no true christian. Your suspicions were not groundless. I cannot yet think, that a thorough work of conversion was ever wrought upon your soul. I fear you deny, that "JESUS CHRIST is truly and properly GOD." I infer this, from your not reading the *Nicene Creed*, and your palliating that text I once urged to prove it. "I and my Father are one." I doubt also, your owning "Original Sin." This I gather from your wondering I should touch on such a point, when I preached my sermon on justification by JESUS CHRIST. Besides, the sad definition you once gave of religion in a letter to your brother ——; the stranger also which you seemed to be to the "devil's temptations," when I conversed with you; and your supposing, that conversion was to be wrought in the soul by moral persuasion; all these put together, dear Sir, convince me, that you were never yet truly and effectually born again of GOD. Besides, *Reverend Sir*, does your going weekly to a club, where the company play at cards, and sit up late at night, does this, dear Sir, agree with your holy vocation, either as a christian or a minister? Be not offended, Rev. Sir, at this plainness of speech. I have forborne a long while; love and gratitude would not suffer me to forbear any longer. I wish I had no occasion to write in this manner. I believe you so ingenuous as not to be angry with me. I pray GOD to quell all resentment in your heart, and send you his holy spirit to guide you into all truth. Your brother's eyes are now in some measure opened: he is convinced of the perfect righteousness wrought out for him by JESUS CHRIST, and ere now I hope hath received faith to apply it to his heart. This is the doctrine of the church of *England*. Unless you hold this and other evangelical principles, how, dear Sir, is it consistent with sincerity to eat her bread? With humility, respect, and love, do I offer these things to your consideration—Be pleased to weigh them in a proper balance, and reflect from what principle they are wrote, and I am persuaded you will not be offended at, reverend and dear Sir,

You most obliged friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CXIX.

Dear Mr. S——— *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Love an *Iſraelite* indeed, I love a catholic ſpirit deſtitute of guile; you I am perſuaded are thus minded. The LORD hath highly favoured you: he hath given you a meek and quiet ſpirit. My heart hath been knit to you, ever ſince GOD firſt brought us together. Oh pray, that what I admire in another, I may imitate myſelf, and have the graces of JESUS CHRIST ſtamped upon my heart. It fills me with confuſion, whenever I conſider how far I am from his likeneſs. Alas! What would become of me, was I to be ſaved by any thing within myſelf. Bleſſed be GOD, the LORD JESUS is my whole righteouſneſs. By virtue of that I know I am juſtified, I believe I ſhall be ſanctified, and am aſſured I ſhall be everlaſtingly redeemed: for GOD loved me with an everlaſting love. Oh, dear Sir, the proſpect of an hereafter fills my ſoul with comfort. Then ſhall I have enough of your company, and of the other children of GOD. The LORD give me patience to wait till my bleſſed change cometh. He often gives me ſuch foretaſtes of the glory to be revealed in us, that I want to leap my ſeventy years. But in a degree, I may ſay with my bleſſed maſter, "I have a cup to drink of, and a baptiſm to be baptized with." Dear Mr. *S*——— will ſee me humbled, I believe, as much as once exalted; I look for "Away with him, away with him," every day. Then, I truſt, I ſhall begin in earneſt to be a diſciple of JESUS CHRIST. Even in ſuch an hour, I believe dear Mr. *S*——— will dare own

His affectionate though moſt unworthy friend,
brother and ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER CXX.

Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

TO think, that you ſhould be engaged publickly to pray for me, hath often given me much ſatisfaction, and now excites me to ſend you this letter of thanks: help me

ſtill, help me, dear Sir, by your prayers. They will be a means of lifting up my hands when they hang down, and of ſtrengthning my feeble knees. Though in all things we do not, yet in eſſentials we both think and ſpeak the ſame things. I wiſh all names among the ſaints of GOD were ſwallowed up in that one of *Chriſtian*. — I long for profeſſors to leave off placing religion in ſaying "I am a Churchman," "I am a Diſſenter." My language to ſuch is, "Are you of CHRIST? If ſo, I love you with all my heart:" for this reaſon chiefly, dear Sir, my heart is drawn out towards you. On this account, though ſo long in CHRIST before me, I make bold to call you brother, and to wiſh you GOD ſpeed: bleſſed be his name, you have little reaſon to cry out; "My leanneſs, my leanneſs." Many gracious ſouls are among your flock, they love to be fed with the ſincere milk of the word. I hope they will be your joy and crown of rejoicing in the day of the LORD JESUS. I often think of them with pleaſure; pray ſalute them moſt affectionately in my name, and exhort them to entreat the LORD that I may make full proof of my miniſtry. In about a twelvemonth, GOD willing, I intend returning to *England*; I wiſh it may be in the fulneſs of the bleſſing of the goſpel of peace. I think you are happy in the acquaintance of Mr. *B*——— *S*———. I truſt he will be as good as he is great, and after he is made perfect through manifold temptations and trials, ſit down with you, and all the other ſpirits of juſt men made perfect, in heaven. This is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate brother and fellow labourer
in our LORD's vineyard,
G. W.

LETTER CXXI.

My dear Brother, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

YOU cannot conceive how often you have been upon my thoughts, ſince I ſaw you. Eternity itſelf I hope will not diminiſh, but more and more increaſe that love, which I bear you from my heart. Your ſtature reminds me of little *Zaccheus*: he that called him, I am perſuaded hath called you: Have you not heard him ſay to your ſoul, "I am your ſal-

vation?" If ſo, fear not, thou art a ſon of *David*. Let worldly affairs be ever ſo bad, he that has given you his own dear Son, will make you more than conqueror in all things. Still dare to own our dear LORD before men. It is no ſcandal for a follower of JESUS CHRIST to be poor. Our LORD was poor before us—So that we are rich in faith and good works, it is not much mater if we are not rich in this world's goods. Having CHRIST, though we have nothing elſe, we poſſeſs all things. However, ſince godlineſs hath the promiſe of the life that now is, as well as that which is to come, I would adviſe you to plead the promiſes for temporal bleſſings. In the name of JESUS, many a ſweet morſel and opportune ſupply, have I fetched in from GOD by this means. That is the way I live, and hope ſhall continue ſo to live till death is ſwallowed up in victory. *Death* — what a comfortable word is that for a believer! CHRIST hath taken the ſting of it away; henceforward it is no longer a king of terrors, but a welcome meſſenger to conduct the ſaints to glory. My dear brother, let us comfort one another with theſe things. We are not to live here always; our inheritance is above. When CHRIST who is our life ſhall appear, then ſhall we alſo appear with him in glory. Why then ſhould we value theſe light afflictions, which are but for a moment? No, let us patiently bear our croſs, ſince we are ſo ſhortly to wear a crown. Oh the riches of free, diſtinguiſhing grace! Why were you and I taken into favor? "Even ſo Father, for ſo it ſeemed good in thy ſight." O! my friend, my brother, let us for ever extol free grace! However others exalt man and debaſe GOD, let us exalt GOD and debaſe man. Let JESUS CHRIST have all the glory: for he is the author, carrier on, and finiſher of our faith. He hath begun it in time, he ſhall compleat it in eternity. — My brother, I have been ſo expanded whilſt writing, that I muſt refer you to other friends, to know how graciouſly GOD hath dealt with

Your affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXXII.

Dear Mr. W. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Long to be in heaven, chiefly to see GOD even as he is; next, that I may have my soul satisfied with the blissful communion of saints. There I hope to see you and your wife, and to shew how sincerely I love you both in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. My heart has went along with my hand, when I used to stretch it out to you in the field. I only wanted more time to converse with you. Oh my dear brother, let us keep ourselves in the love of GOD through faith in CHRIST JESUS, and then, yet a little while we shall meet in glory. As faith is the beginning, so faith is the end of the christian course. Let us keep this grace in continual exercise, and we may bid death and hell defiance. Faith makes us more than conquerors over all; I speak thus to you, because I hope you and dear Mrs. ——— have been in some measure made partakers of this free gift of GOD. I pray GOD to increase it more and more, till it be swallowed up in the fruition of our supreme good. Perhaps our faith may be put to the trial ere it be long; I expect nothing but sufferings. Oh pray that I may be faithful unto the end, and that a crown of life may be given to

Your affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXXIII.

To Mr. H.

My dear Brother, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

THE christian love I bear to both your sister and you, excites me to send you a line. Providence prevented your sailing with us; but as we have drank into the same spirit, I hope brotherly love will continue and increase between us, to all eternity. I have often wrestled in prayer for you since we have been on board. Your sister has watered those prayers with her tears, and I trust the LORD was entreated of us. Our voyage has been highly profitable to our souls. I can never be thankful enough for this sweet retreat. My dear brother, how do you find your heart? Mine is like *Eze-*

kiel's temple, the farther I search into it, the greater abominations I discover; but there is a fountain opened for sin and all uncleanness. There, my dear brother, we may both wash and be made clean. The LORD hath already vouchsafed us some assurances of his love. Oh let us continually keep faith in exercise, till it be entirely swallowed up in the boundless ocean of the beatific vision. That GOD may daily renew you by his spirit, and more and more fit you for the happiness which awaits you above, is the hearty prayer of

Your affectionate though weak brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXXIV.

To Mrs. ———.

My Dear Friend, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10. 1739.

SHALL I have any leisure time and not write you a line of thanks for your works of faith and labours of love? GOD forbid. I know not your name, but I neither forget your house, nor favours. The LORD reward you a thousand fold! I only fear that you have my person too much in admiration. If you look to the instrument less, and to GOD more, it will be better. By the grace of GOD alone, I am what I am. If any good hath been done to you or others, it was not I, but the grace of GOD that was in me. Oh, not unto me, not unto me, but unto GOD's name be all the glory. I pray GOD to make you partaker of the same grace; for I would not have you an hearer only, I would have you a doer also. Surely you are more noble and wise, than to deceive your own soul. And yet it is but too notorious, that numbers rest in the outward form, and are strangers to the inward power of godliness in their hearts. Do not you so learn CHRIST. Beg of GOD that you may feel his spirit working mightily in your soul, and witnessing with your spirit that you are a child of GOD. I could go on, but other letters must be wrote—Pray tender my love to all that dined with me at your house; exhort them to keep close by faith to CHRIST, and to pray to and give him thanks in my behalf; for he hath dealt most graciously with

Your obliged friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXXV.

Dear Mrs. ——, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10. 1739.

STILL I must repeat my former request. Be not angry because I did not visit you oftener. I love, I honour you the more for being of low degree. You are thereby rendered more conformable to our dear and common LORD. His business alone prevented my seeing you so often as I would. However, though absent, I rejoice that our Saviour has dealt so lovingly with you. As afflictions have abounded, consolations have much more abounded. I am persuaded, you can affirm that GOD is the father of all mercies, and the GOD of all comforts. Has he not comforted you my dear sister in all your tribulation? He that hath, and does, will still deliver you. Yet a little while, and he that cometh will come, and will not tarry. Shortly I suppose the earthly house of this your tabernacle will be dissolved: fear not, you shall then be cloathed upon with your house which is from heaven. Oh pray that such honour may be also conferred on

Your unworthy brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXXVI.

Dear Mr. C ——, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1739.

I Cannot forget your frequent attendance on my ministry when last at London. I am pressed in spirit to write you a line, to exhort you to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. You have learned the truth as it is in JESUS. You have been taught it of GOD. Electing love hath snatched you as a brand out of the fire, and you have followed our LORD without the camp, bearing his reproach. The LORD's tabernacle has lately been pitched in the fields. Ere long it may be driven into the wilderness. I hope you will follow it even there. The divine presence, I am persuaded, will accompany it. Hath not your heart often burnt within you when the Scriptures have been opening to you, though not under a church roof? GOD is not confined to places. Wherever his people are, he will find and visit them. Our LORD (oh stupendous love!) has been pleased to sail

with us. I have tasted both of his rod and staff; each has given me unspeakable comfort. My dear brother, help me to praise him. Who so great, so good a GOD, as our GOD? In about a twelve-month I hope to see you again. Oh pray for me, my dear brother, that I may meanwhile be let further into the mysteries of godliness, "GOD manifest in the flesh." As yet, I find I am but a child, and a meer novice. But this is my comfort, "The LORD who has begun will carry on the good work," till I am grown a strong man in CHRIST JESUS. I long to know more of his love, I hunger and thirst after the teachings of his blessed spirit. You, I am persuaded, are no otherwise minded. Still press on and faint not. Yet a little while and you shall enter into perfect joy with

Your affectionate brother in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CXXVII.

Reverend Sir, *New-York, Nov.* 16, 1739.

SEEING a passage in your letter to Mr. *P*—— concerning me, I find my heart immediately set to send you a line. I love to be acquainted with the true and old servants of JESUS CHRIST, because I delight to sit at their feet and receive instruction from them. You said right, reverend Sir, when you said "I was but a young divine." Indeed I am a novice in the things of GOD. I can only say, that I desire to know the whole will of GOD, that I may communicate it to others. CHRIST is so good a master, that I would have all men drawn after him. He is pleased to let me experience daily teachings of his blessed spirit, and to show me the riches, freeness, and eternal duration of his love. —— But as yet I only see men as trees walking. Oh pray, reverend Sir, that the LORD would again touch me, and enable me to see all things clearly. I desire it only for the good of his church. Reverend Sir, into what a lethargy is the christian world fallen! Foolish and wise virgins are all slumbering and sleeping. It is high time for all that love the LORD JESUS to lift up their voices like trumpets, and to give warning of the bridegroom's coming; many I hope are already alarmed. ——— *Philadel-*

phia people receive the gospel gladly. Here, indeed, has been some little opposition, and therefore I hope success will be given to the word, and what has been done in *England*, the journal sent with this will inform you. Oh reverend Sir, I beseech you give thanks for me with your whole heart. Entreat the LORD that I may be kept humble and dependent upon our dear LORD JESUS. GOD willing, in about seven months I hope to see *New England* in my return to *Europe*. An effectual door is there opened, and no wonder that there are many adversaries. Shortly I expect to suffer for my dear master. May I not deny him in that hour! If you would please to favour me with a line, I should be glad to continue this correspondence, and acquaint you from time to time how the work of GOD goes on. Mr. *N*——— will convey any thing you shall send. May the LORD richly reward both him and you, for your love to

The most unprofitable of all his servants,

G. W.

LETTER CXXVIII.

Rev. Sir, *New York, Nov.* 16, 1739.

MR. *N*———, and the report of your sincere love for our dear LORD JESUS, embolden me to write this. I rejoice for the great things GOD has done for many souls in *Northampton*. I hope, GOD willing, to come and see them in a few months. The journal sent with this, will shew you what the LORD is about to do in *Europe*. Now is the gathering time. A winnowing time will shortly succeed. Persecution and the power of religion will always keep pace. Our LORD's word begins to be glorified in *America*. Many hearts gladly receive it. Oh *Rev. Sir*, it grieves me to see people, every where ready to perish for lack of knowledge. I care not what I suffer, so that some may be brought home to CHRIST. I am but a stripling, but the LORD chooses the weak things of this world to confound the strong. I should rejoice to be instructed by you. Mr. *N*——— will convey a letter to me—May the GOD of all grace give you all peace and joy in believing! May he increase you more and more, both you and your children! May you every day be feasted, and built

built up with fresh anointings of his blessed spirit! And by your fervent prayers, may you be enabled to hold up the hands of, reverend Sir,

Your unworthy brother, fellow labourer
and servant in our dear LORD,
G. W.

LETTER CXXIX.

Hon. Mother, *New York, Nov.* 16, 1739.

LAST night GOD brought me hither in health and safety. I must not omit informing you of it. Here is likely to be some opposition, and consequently a likelihood that some good will be done. New friends are raised up every day whithersoever we go; the people of *Philadelphia* have used me most courteously, and many I believe have been pricked to the heart. GOD willing, I leave this place next *Monday*, and in about a fortnight think to set out for *Virginia* by land. In about a twelvemonth, I propose returning to *England*; expect then to have the happiness of seeing me suffer for my master's sake. Oh that GOD may enable you to rejoice in it! If you have the spirit of CHRIST you will rejoice, if not, you will be sorrowful. Oh my honoured mother, my soul is in distress for you: Flee, flee I beseech you to JESUS CHRIST by faith. Lay hold on Him, and do not let Him go. GOD hath given you convictions. Arise, arise, and never rest till they end in a sound conversion. Dare to deny yourself. My honoured mother, I beseech you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS, dare to take up your cross and follow CHRIST.

I am, honoured mother, your ever dutiful
though unworthy son,
G. W.

LETTER CXXX.

To the Rev. Mr. P———.

Rev. and dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

I HAVE been much concerned since I saw you, lest I behaved not with that humility toward you, which is due from a babe to a father in CHRIST: but you know, reverend Sir, how difficult it is to meet with success, and not be puffed

puffed up with it, and therefore if any such thing was discernible in my conduct, oh pity me, and pray to the LORD to heal my pride. All I can say is, that I desire to learn of JESUS CHRIST to be meek and lowly in heart; but my corruptions are so strong, and my employ so dangerous, that sometimes I am afraid. But wherefore do I fear? He that hath given me himself, will he not freely give me all things? By his help then I am resolved to ask till I receive, to seek till I find, and to knock till I know myself. Blessed be GOD, I have had a sweet retirement to search out my spirit and bewail the infirmities of my public ministrations. Alas! who can hope to be justified by his works? My preaching, praying, &c. are only *splendida peccata*. The blood of CHRIST applied to my soul by a living faith, is the only thing that can render them acceptable. This is the doctrine which you, reverend Sir, have been enabled to preach, and for which no doubt you have suffered reproach: But you are now almost at your journey's end. Yet a little while, and you shall enter into your Master's joy. In the mean while the LORD, I am persuaded, will keep you as the apple of his eye. He will not forsake you when you are grey-headed, and your strength faileth you. The moment you are ripe for our common Master, he shall translate you to glory; *I præ, sequar*. I am a child; I must be tutored and made meet by sufferings to be a partaker of the heavenly inheritance with the saints in light: But I am persuaded GOD will for CHRIST's sake finally save, reverend Sir,

Your unworthy brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXXXI.

Dear Brother J. *Philadelphia, Nov. 28, 1739.*

INDEED I love you. Why? Because I hope you are an *Israelite* indeed; and one of those babes to whom it has been our LORD's good pleasure to reveal the mysteries of the kingdom of GOD. It is special; it is a distinguishing gift. Be humble, dear *James*, be humble. Talk little, and think much. A wise man will guide his words with discretion. Be zealous for your dear Master. Let a zeal for his honour even

eat

eat you up; but then beg of GOD that it may be according to knowledge. Stand fast in the liberty wherewith CHRIST hath made you free, and be not again entangled with a yoke of bondage. Join not one of your works with your faith, in order to justify you before GOD: And if GOD gives you a spirit of prayer and supplication, fear not to pray as the spirit gives you utterance. Man may deride, but CHRIST will approve and accept you. Dear *James*, you see I do not forget you. I hope your little society increases, and that the LORD will always be adding to it such as shall be saved. Salute them all most kindly in my name. Exhort them to continue in the grace of GOD, and to pray for, dear *James*,

Your affectionate friend, brother, and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CXXXII.

Dear Mrs. S. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

HAS the LORD yet heard your prayer? Often have I heard you say, "Oh! that I had received the faith!" As often, to the best of my knowledge, have I said, "*Amen.*" Ere now, I hope our common Master has fulfilled all your petitions, and given you your heart's desire. If not, what hinders? Our LORD doth not want power, for he is Almighty; he does not want a will, for he invites you to come unto him. Search your heart, and see what is the reason the King of glory does not enter in. Is it too full of the world? Renounce it. Do you not ask often enough? Resolve to ask oftener. Do you look too much to some who say they have received faith, but do not bring forth good fruit? Henceforward look only to GOD and your own soul. Or do you not know the reason? Ask our LORD to shew you, and indeed he will; for he hath promised to fulfil the desires of them that fear him. Your *Cousin* can assure you of this. Oh follow him, as he does CHRIST, and you will be as happy as your heart can wish. Dear Mrs. *S*——, I am, with all possible thanks for past favours,

Your obliged friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXXXIII.

To Mrs. Martha B.

My dear Sister, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

I Call you not *Martha*, but MARY, for I hope you have chosen the better part, which shall not be taken from you: And yet not so properly may you be said to chuse, as the LORD to have chosen you; for we love GOD, because he first loved us. I can trace my conversion through its several steps, but cannot find one step I first took towards GOD. I have been a backslider from my very infancy. Had not GOD called after me, and by his spirit said unto me, as unto *Adam*, "Where art thou? Into what a dreadful condition hast thou plunged thyself?" I should have fled from him (if possible) for ever. I am persuaded you, my dear Sister, can readily say the same; for otherwise how can we truly value our LORD's redeeming blood? How can we relish the doctrine of GOD's free grace, and our being freely justified by faith which is in CHRIST JESUS? Oh let us beg of GOD to teach us these divine truths more and more, (for he alone can teach them) and let us lay out ourselves to teach them to others. You are happy in being in fellowship with some, who I hope will be ready, if need be, to seal these truths with their blood. Be humble, my dear Sister, be humble; and cease not to pray for

Your affectionate brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXXXIV.

Dear Mrs. H. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

RACHEL brings me glad tidings: She tells me the LORD hath touched your heart by the power of his word, and that your relations have threatened to cast you out for our LORD's sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad. If you endure to the end, and naked follow a naked CHRIST, great shall be your reward in heaven. There is no being a christian without enduring contempt; no being happy hereafter, without suffering reproach here. The world can only love its own. As they hate GOD, so they must hate those that are desirous to be like him: But be not dismayed; CHRIST's strength shall be

be magnified in your weakneſs: A living faith will ſupport you under all. When your father and mother forſake you, the LORD will take you up. The greateſt foes you will find to be thoſe of your own heart. Subdue theſe, and outward croſſes will affect you but little. To conquer yourſelf will be a laborious taſk; but if you believe, JESUS CHRIST ſhall even do this for you. Get out of yourſelf, rely wholly on, and be a co-worker with him, and he ſhall be to you wiſdom, righteouſneſs, ſanctification, and redemption. *Rachel* greatly wiſhes this, but not more ſincerely than

Your friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXXXV.

Dear Mr. P. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

WHAT a divine ſympathy and attraction is there between all thoſe who by one ſpirit are made members of that myſtical body, whereof JESUS CHRIST is the head! I loved your departed wife, now with GOD. I love your daughter, and the church in your houſe, in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. Bleſſed be GOD that his love is ſo far ſhed abroad in our hearts, as to cauſe us to love one another, though we a little differ as to externals: For my part, I hate to mention them. My one ſole queſtion is, *Are you a chriſtian?* Are you ſealed by CHRIST's ſpirit to the day of redemption? Are you hungering and thirſting after the perfect, everlaſting righteouſneſs of JESUS CHRIST? If ſo, you are my brother, my ſiſter, and mother. I deſire to love you as myſelf. This is my temper; I am perſuaded it is your's. Why otherwiſe did you ſo gladly receive me into your houſe? The LORD reward you and the reſt of your chriſtian brethren. Indeed I am preſent with you in ſpirit, and wiſh you good luck in the name of the LORD. O be not ſlack to praiſe him in my behalf; for I have experienced ſome rich anointings of his holy ſpirit, and have been made to ſee more into the wonders of redeeming love. Did I know more of your names, I would write to more. This is my comfort, I truſt our names are written in the book of life. Yet a little while, and we ſhall

ſit

ſit down together in the kingdom of our Father. A place, though on a lower form, is, I humbly hope, prepared for

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CXXXVI.

Dear Mr. H. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

IF I remember, you uſed to expreſs a great value for my perſon and doctrine, otherwiſe why ſhould you deſire a line from ſuch a wretch as I am? When I look into myſelf, and conſider how poor and miſerable, and blind and naked my ſoul is, I wonder that any one ſhould pay me the leaſt regard. But what ſhall we ſay? GOD will have mercy upon whom he will have mercy. I am entirely indebted to free grace for all I have, am, or ſhall be. You alſo, I truſt, dear Sir, are ready to ſubſcribe to this; for what have we but what we have received? What ſhould we have been had GOD left us to ourſelves? Oh let a ſenſe of this free, diſtinguiſhing love conſtrain us to obedience: A chriſtian needs no other motive. That is a true goſpel-faith which works by love. I often think it almoſt preſumption to think of rewards in a future ſtate; my Maſter amply rewards me in this: But preſent mercies are only earneſts of future favours. Be not therefore, dear Sir, weary of well-doing, for in due time we ſhall reap, if we faint not. The LORD hath multiplied his favours towards me ſince I ſaw you laſt. We have had a long but pleaſant and profitable voyage. Oh ſing praiſes unto our GOD in behalf of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CXXXVII.

Dear Mrs. A. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

THESE words of the pſalmiſt, "Let us rejoice in the ſtrength of our ſalvation," often come with great power and comfort upon my ſoul. You and I need take much notice of them: For otherwiſe how often ſhould we have fallen away from GOD ſince our firſt looking Zion-wards? But the

LORD

LORD as he loves us freely, so he will heal our backslidings. He neither will let us fall into sin or error, so as finally to destroy our souls. GOD forbid this should encourage us in sin. It is only intended to support us in danger, and to strengthen us under temptations. Since there is such infinite mercy with GOD, it is a cogent reason why he should be loved and feared; but not why he should be disobeyed: And since GOD has lately led you out of delusion, be more watchful over yourself, my dear Sister, to follow those who truly shew you the way of salvation.—To hear of your standing stedfast in the LORD, will highly delight

Your affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXXXVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. R. E.

Rev. and Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

THE cordial and tender love which I bear you, will not permit me to neglect any opportunity of sending to you. I bless the LORD from my soul, for raising you and several other burning and shining lights to appear for him in this midnight of the church. My heart has been much warmed during my voyage, by reading some of your sermons, especially that preached before the associate presbytery. I long more and more to hear the rise and progress of your proceedings, and how far you would willingly carry the reformation of the church of *Scotland*. There are some expressions which I suppose will be interpreted to your disadvantage, both by your domestic and foreign enemies. I should be glad to know who are those martyrs to which you refer, and of what nature those *covenants* were which you mention in your sermon. My ignorance of the constitution of the *Scotch* church is the cause of my writing after this manner. I should be obliged to you, if you would be pleased to recommend to me some useful books, especially such which open the holy sacrament; for in GOD's law is my delight. *Boston's fourfold State of Man* I like exceedingly. Under GOD it has been of much service to my soul. I believe I agree with you and him in the essential truths

truths of christianity. I bless God, his spirit has convinced me of our eternal election by the Father through the Son, of our free justification through faith in his blood, of our sanctification as the consequence of that, and of our final perseverance and glorification as the result of all. These I am persuaded God has joined together; these, neither men nor devils shall ever be able to put asunder. My only scruple at present is, "Whether you approve of taking the sword in defence of your religious rights?" One of our *English* bishops I remember, when I was with him, called you *Cameronians*. They, I think, took up arms, which I think to be contrary to the spirit of Jesus Christ and his apostles. Some few passages in your sermon before the presbytery, I thought were a little suspicious of favouring that principle. I pray God your next may inform me that I am mistaken: For when zeal carries us to such a length, I think it ceases to be zeal according to knowledge. Dearest Sir, be not angry at my writing thus freely. I love, I honour you in the bowels, and for the sake of Jesus Christ, from my soul. I wish you good luck in all your pious undertakings. I pray God to prosper the works of your hands, and to make you a noble instrument in bringing many sons to glory. Pray send an immediate answer, directed as usual, and care will be taken to have it remitted to, reverend and dear Sir,

Your most affectionate brother, friend, fellow-labourer, and obliged servant,

G. W.

LETTER CXXXIX.

Dear Brother, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

IT is much upon my heart to send you a line. Although you are not with me, yet as God was pleased to touch you by my unworthy ministry, I love you with a peculiar love. Business prevented my writing to you when in *Yorkshire*. I was sorry to hear that Brother *J*—— had reason to blame your conduct. My dear brother, be not offended, if in the meekness and gentleness of Christ, I exhort you to be sober-minded. Follow after, but do not run before the blessed Spirit; if you do, although you may benefit others, and God may over-

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over-rule every thing for your good, yet you will certainly deſtroy the peace of your own ſoul. GOD has been pleaſed to call you by his grace, and to give you joy in the Holy Ghoſt: But, my brother, I hope it will be more ſettled and ſubſtantial, and joined with meekneſs and humility of heart. A joy which is the reſult of inward trials, and flowing from a long experience of the buffeting of ſatan. Such a joy will make you apt and fit to teach, and keep you from being puffed up above meaſure. It will exalt, at the ſame time as it humbles your ſoul. The LORD direct my dear brother in all things: I wiſh all his ſervants were prophets; but let every one be rightly perſuaded of his call to public teaching. It is dangerous to touch the ark, though it be falling, without a commiſſion from above. But no more. I am

Your moſt affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXL.

Dear Mr. B. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

YOUR kind preſent of flour has been of ſingular uſe to me and my family; I pray GOD, in return, to feed you with that bread which cometh down from heaven. You are one of my firſt and choiceſt friends. You have not been aſhamed to own me, or to attend on my miniſtry. It will wonderfully rejoice me, to ſee you exalted at our LORD's right-hand in a future ſtate. The way you know. JESUS CHRIST is the way, the truth, and the life. Through faith in his blood ſhall you have free acceſs into the holy of holies. I hope dear Mr. *B.* is not in the number of thoſe, who want to make a Saviour of their own works, and thereby deny the LORD, who has ſo dearly bought them with his precious blood: No, I am perſuaded you are more noble. Mr. *B*—— has not ſo learnt CHRIST. He is willing, I truſt, to aſcribe his ſalvation to GOD's free grace, and to let JESUS CHRIST be all in all. I hope your brother, and thoſe young men you brought with you out of *Spittlefields*, are likewiſe thus minded. Though abſent, yet I do not forget them. O exhort them from me, to ſave themſelves from this untoward generation. My dear friend, do you go before them, and let them learn of you how

to

to walk with GOD. It is a difficult thing to be a chriſtian indeed. Numbers are *Phariſees*, and do not know it. I pray GOD you may be delivered from them, and be made experimentally to know that no one can call JESUS CHRIST "his LORD," till he has really received the Holy Ghoſt. I could dwell on this, but other buſineſs obliges me to haſten to ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Mr. *B*——,

Your moſt obliged friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CXLI.

Reverend Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

I AM not willing to go on ſhore till I have performed my promiſe, and ſent you a line. I heartily wiſh I could write ſomething which might advance the glory of GOD and the good of his church. As we both profeſs ourſelves miniſters of the goſpel, theſe two things ought to be our chief and only concern, and more eſpecially at this time, when men ſeek their own and not the things of the LORD JESUS. Oh, *dear Sir*, the care of ſouls I find to be a matter of the greateſt importance. You have a great number committed to your charge. What a dreadful thing will it be for any of them to periſh through your neglect? And yet I fear, Sir, you do not walk worthy of the holy vocation wherewith you are called. It is no good report that I hear of you in common life. Your practice contradicts your doctrine, and what good can you do, if every one of your pariſhioners, whilſt you are preaching, may reply, "Phyſician heal thyſelf?" Beſides, Sir, how can you preach CHRIST to others, when you are a ſtranger to his power yourſelf? It is next to impoſſible. I make no apology for this plainneſs of ſpeech. Simplicity becomes embaſſadors of CHRIST. I am, reverend Sir,

Your obliged friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CXLII.

Dear Mr. G. *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

INDEED I love you, though it was so long before I came to see you. Want of time, not of respect, was the cause. GOD is my judge how earnestly I long after your salvation, and how willingly I would spend and be spent in order to promote it. Oh how closely does true faith in JESUS CHRIST our head, knit all his members in love to one another; what a divine harmony and attraction is there between them, when they have drank into and been made partakers of one and the same spirit? How does the love of GOD dilate and enlarge their hearts! How do all little distinctions about externals fall away, and every other name is swallowed up in the name of JESUS CHRIST? This, my dear brother, is that catholic spirit, which will cement all denominations of sincere professors together. This is the spirit of which free distinguishing grace has made you a partaker, and which I pray GOD we both may partake of every day more and more. He is faithful who has promised, who also will do it. I find it is not in vain that we have believed in JESUS. He is GOD, and his work is perfect; his love is like himself unchangeable; his gifts and callings are without repentance, and therefore, though I am but a babe in CHRIST, yet I am persuaded I shall see you crowned with glory. Then, my dear brother, we shall have time enough together. Then, there will be no parting, no fear of falling; but we shall drink eternally of those pleasures which flow from GOD's right hand for evermore. Supported with this hope, what hinders but I may come once again, when the LORD permits, and offer CHRIST's everlasting righteousness to poor perishing sinners. The devil and his servants will rage horribly, and perhaps cast me into prison, nay, put me to death: But if you will come and visit me, by the help of my GOD, I will preach to you even there; for I am not ashamed of the gospel of CHRIST. I have felt it to be the power of GOD unto my salvation. Oh, my brother, the fire kindles whilst I am writing; but I must have done. Pray salute those dear souls that I spoke to at your house, and all

other

other friends. Entreat them to pray and give thanks for me; and assure them they are not forgotten by

Ever yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXLIII.

Mr. H—— *Philadelphia, Nov.* 28, 1739.

AS you stand so nearly related to your daughter, who is with me, though I am unknown to you in person, yet I make bold to send you a line to inform you of her welfare. I find she did not confer much with you about her intended voyage; but I hope both you and her will have great reason to rejoice in the end. GOD has been pleased to visit her with some illness, but now she is perfectly recovered. What is best of all, I hope her soul prospers, and is fitting more day by day for the enjoyment of GOD. This was the chief end of her going abroad, and give me leave to tell you, this is the chief thing you ought, and must pursue at home. But why do I say at home? A christian hath no home but heaven. He is a stranger and pilgrim while here on earth. I hope you know better, Mr. *H——*, than to think you was born to drive a team, or plough a piece of ground. These things must be done, but then they should be done in subordination to the care of your better part, the soul. Your daughter tells me, you are now grey headed. Take heed, dear Mr. *H——*, to make your calling and election sure. Rest not in outward things. Do not flatter yourself that you are a christian, because you go to church, and do no one any harm. Nothing but a living faith in CHRIST JESUS our dear LORD, can qualify you for eternal life. Without this, GOD will be to us a consuming fire; and unless we are born again, and made new creatures in CHRIST, we never shall enter into the kingdom of GOD. If you know not what I mean by these terms, you may depend upon it, you are a stranger to this new-birth, and consequently in a state of death: but you need not fear; even at the eleventh hour CHRIST will accept you, if you come to him by faith. He hath shewn mercy to your son and daughter. Why may he not shew mercy to their father also? Whosoever cometh to him, he will in no-wise cast out. Haste then, dear

Sir, out of your ſpiritual *Sodom*. Linger not. Nothing will more rejoice your dear children, than to ſee you brought to an experimental knowledge of the truth, that you may be ſaved. For their ſakes, you are particularly remembered by

Your unknown but ſincere friend
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CXLIV.

To the Rev. Mr. P———.

Upper Marlborough (Mary Land) Dec. 8, 1739.

Rev. and dear Sir,

TILL now, I have neither had leiſure nor freedom to anſwer your kind letter. Bleſſed be GOD, who has opened the hearts of ſome of his people at *New York* to receive the word. May he enable you to water what his own right hand hath planted, and grant to your labours a divine increaſe! Indeed I wiſh you good luck in the name of the LORD. I wiſh all his ſervants were prophets. Oh that he would be pleaſed to ſend forth experimental labourers into his harveſt:—for I fear amongſt you, as well as in other places, there are many who are well verſed in the doctrines of grace, having learned them at the univerſity, but notwithſtanding are heart-hypocrites, and enemies to the power of godlineſs.——*Dear Sir*, I uſe this freedom, becauſe I love ſimplicity. I confeſs I am but a child in grace, as well as years. Pardon this freedom, for out of the fulneſs and ſincerity of my heart my pen writeth.—I thank your ſon and *dear Mr. S———* for what they did on my account. Alas, I fear they think too highly of me. Oh dear Sir, entreat the GOD of all grace to give me humility, ſo ſhall ſucceſs not prove my ruin. My moſt cordial reſpects and hearty thanks attend dear *Mrs. P———*, I pray GOD in all things to make her a help meet for you—As faſt as I can ſnatch a few moments from public buſineſs, more *New York friends* may expect to hear from me—A ſenſe of their favours is ſtill upon my heart—I would willingly remember them, whenever I go in and out before the LORD. Mr. *N———*'s letter, and my next journal, will acquaint you, how the LORD JESUS has been getting himſelf

ſelf the victory, ſince I left *New York*——There has been ſuch little oppoſition, that I have been tempted almoſt to cry out, "Satan, why ſleepeſt thou?" But GOD pities my weakneſs. Oh, dear Sir, thank him in my behalf, for indeed he deals moſt lovingly with, Rev. Sir,

Your moſt unworthy brother and fellow-labourer,

G. W.

LETTER CXLV.

Dear Sir, *Upper Marlborough, Dec.* 8, 1739.

I Cannot defer writing to dear Mr. *N*——— any longer. —This afternoon GOD brought us hither. Some are ſolicitous for my ſtaying here to-morrow. As it ſeems to be a call from providence, I have complied with their requeſt. Oh that I may be enabled to lift up my voice like a trumpet, and to ſpeak with the demonſtration of the ſpirit and with power. Theſe parts are in a dead ſleep. At *Anapolis*, I preached twice, and ſpoke home to ſome ladies concerning the vanity of their falſe politeneſs. But alas, they are wedded to their *Quadrille* and *Ombre*. The miniſter of the place was under convictions—He wept twice, and earneſtly begged my prayers. He will not frighten people I believe with harſh doctrine,—he loves to propheſy ſmooth things.—GOD bleſſed the word wonderfully at *Philadelphia*. I have great reaſon to think many are brought home to GOD. When I return, it will then be ſeen, who has received the word into an honeſt and good heart. By the divine aſſiſtance, I propoſe reviſiting *Philadelphia*, *New York*, and to go as far as *Boſton*, and ſo return to *Georgia*, before I take ſhipping again for *England*——The LORD direct my going in his way! About *May* you may expect to ſee me. My dear friend, pray that I may ſo improve the time of my abſence, that at my return my progreſs may be made known to all men. It ſhames me to ſee what little proficiency I have made in the ſchool of CHRIST. If I do not begin to preſs forwards, how ſhall I appear before my bleſſed LORD? I feel myſelf to be the chief of ſinners; ſurely never was a greater inſtance of redeeming diſtinguiſhing love. GOD forbid that I ſhould glory in any thing but free grace: had not GOD plucked me as a brand out of the fire, I had now

either been given over to a reprobate mind, or caſt into a place of torment. Oh help me, help me, *deareſt Mr. N———*, help me to be thankful, and accept my thanks, though late, for all favours received when at *New York*. Indeed I love you in the bowels of our dear LORD JESUS. Salute your dear wife my kind hoſteſs: exhort her to be ſeverely kind to her little boy.—My moſt cordial reſpects attend all who aſk after me. Entreat them to continue their prayers, deareſt Mr. *N———*, for

Your weak, but affectionate friend, brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXLVI.

To Mr. B———.

Dear Sir, *Upper Marlborough, Dec.* 8, 1739.

GRATITUDE obliges me to ſend you a letter of thanks for your laſt kind preſent, and all other favours; but the love of our LORD JESUS CHRIST conſtrains me to write to you, exhorting you earneſtly to contend for the faith once delivered to the ſaints. I humbly hope the LORD has been pleaſed to bleſs my coming in theſe parts to many, and amongſt them to you alſo. It rejoiced me to find dear *Mr. B———* was convinced that I preached the truth as it is in JESUS. It pleaſed me exceedingly, to find how his eyes were opened to ſee the direct contrariety there is, between the ſpirit of CHRIST and the ſpirit of the world. What has my dear friend now to do, but to proſecute theſe convictions, and never reſt till they end in a ſound converſion. GOD has given you richly all things to enjoy. Be perſuaded henceforward not to be ſo cumbered about the many trifles of this life, as to neglect the one thing needful. Dare, Sir, to be ſingularly good, Oh dare to let your light ſhine before men — Be not aſhamed of CHRIST and his goſpel. Come out from your carnal acquaintance, and live as becomes a true follower of our LORD JESUS. Dear *Mr. B———*, I hope will join with you. GOD's ſpirit has been and is now ſtriving with his heart. I pray GOD to make this the accepted time, and cauſe it to be the day of his ſalvation. How will it fill me with joy

joy at my return to *Philadelphia*, to see dear *Mr. B*——— and some other excellent well-meaning people, whom I love, become despised followers of the Lamb of GOD. If my prayers may be any ways assisting, as GOD shall enable me you may depend on them—Our dear friend *B*——— can inform you what GOD has done for us, since we saw you. One favour more I beg of you; give thanks as well as pray for

Your most obliged friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CXLVII.

To Captain B———

Williamsburgh, (Virginia) Dec. 15, 1739.

HITHER GOD brought us last night; I trust the same gracious being, by his good providence, has conducted you safe to *Philadelphia*. I cannot say, I have met with so much as even an *almost christian*, since I parted from you, till I came to *Colonel Whiting*'s —— There, GOD put in my way a planter, that is seeking to know the way of GOD more perfectly—He is now with us, and I hope our conversation will be blessed unto him. Oh dear *Mr. B*———, strive, I beseech you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS, strive to enter in at the strait gate. GOD of late has loudly called you — Take heed that neither the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, nor the pride of life prevail on you to lie down in a carnal security again. I am confident you will be most heartily despised, if you are a real christian; but dear *Mr. B*——'s resolution will be built on a better foundation, than to let a little breath blow it down. In CHRIST is your strength; look up to him day by day, and as your day is, so shall your strength be. I fear and pray for you. GOD only knows, how often you have been upon my heart. We have not failed interceding for you at the throne of grace. I shall be much mistaken, if *Mr. B*——— does not prove a christian indeed. About *May* I propose, GOD willing, to be with you again. Then I shall rejoice to sit and hear you tell what GOD has done for your soul — Be not afraid of conviction. Be not afraid of inward feelings. Now pray to the LORD JESUS, to lay the ax of mortification to the root of your heart. Make

thorough work with it. Do not ſpare yourſelf in the leaſt.—Now is the accepted time, and that it may be the day of ſalvation, is the earneſt prayer of, dear *Mr. B*———,

Your obliged affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXLVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. G—— T——.

My dear Brother, *Williamſburgh, Dec.* 15, 1739.

BE not angry becauſe you have not heard from me. Indeed I love and honour you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. You are ſeldom out of my thoughts; but till now I have not had liberty given me, to ſend you a line — I truſt the work goes on glorioufly in your parts. The hand of the LORD brought wondrous things to paſs, before we left *Penſilvania*; but in theſe parts ſatan ſeems to lead people captive at his will. The diſtance of the plantations prevents people's aſſembling themſelves together.—Here are no great towns, as in other provinces, and the commonalty is made up of *Negroes* and *convicts*, and if they pretend to ſerve GOD, their maſters, *Pharaoh* like, cry out, "Ye are idle, ye are idle." Laſt night I read the affecting account of your brother *John*; let me die, O LORD, the death of that righteous man, and let my future ſtate be like his! O my dear friend, my brother, entreat the LORD that I may grow in grace, and pick up the fragments of my time, that not a moment of it may be loſt. Teach me, oh teach me the way of GOD more perfectly. Rebuke, reprove, exhort me with all authority—I feel I am but a babe in Chriſt. I long to know more of the holy JESUS. He has manifeſted himſelf to my ſoul, both in a way of humiliation and exaltation. Since I ſaw you, both his rod and ſtaff have comforted me. At preſent, he makes me young and lively as an eagle; I only wiſh I was more worthy to ſubſcribe myſelf

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXLIX.

To Mrs. C.

Newton, Cape Fear, Dec. 28, 1739.

My dear Sister in CHRIST,

JUST now we have been singing the hymn, which we sung at *Broad-oak*; and as I generally do at such seasons, I thought of that happy time wherein we sung it in your great hall. It was a time much to be remembered, an anticipation, I believe, of that blessed time when we all shall meet to sing the song of the Lamb in the heavenly Jerusalem ——— For the adoption of the spirit, if truly received, is the earnest of our promised inheritance. We are sealed thereby to the day of redemption, and therefore may give both men and devils the challenge to separate us, if they can, from the love of GOD which is in CHRIST JESUS our LORD—I am verily persuaded, that since I left you, all things have worked together for your good. As I am travelling, often does my soul think both of you and yours, and out of the fulness of my heart, do I often pour forth this or such like petitions, "Dearest LORD, be for ever gracious to the household of ——!" My conscience hath smote me frequently, for not writing you a longer letter. I send this to ask pardon, and to assure you how often you and your daughters are upon my heart, when I go in and out before the LORD—I long to hear how the LORD JESUS hath magnified his strength in your weakness. It would fill a volume to tell his goodness and truth; and my base ingratitude sometimes comes with such conviction upon my heart, that I can scarce forbear getting off my horse, and humbling myself in the way side. Indeed, I am the chief of sinners, and yet overflowing hath the LORD JESUS been in his love. You will hear more soon by the journal which will be sent. Dear *Mrs. C*———, my love to all.

Your affectionate though unworthy brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CL.

Reverend and dear Sir, Savannah, Jan. 16. 1740.

WITH much pleasure (tho' not till last week) I received your kind affectionate letter. I thank you for it with all

all my soul, and pray GOD to reward you for this, and all other your works of faith and labours of love. You may depend on my not being prejudiced against you or your brethren, by any evil report. They only endear you to me more and more; and were your enemies to represent you as black as hell, I should think you were the more glorious in the sight of heaven. Your sweet criticisms and remarks upon my journal and sermons, were exceeding acceptable, and very just. I assure you, dear Sir, I am fully convinced of the doctrine of election, free justification, and final perseverance. My observations on the Quakers, were only intended for those particular persons with whom I then conversed. The tenets of the quakers in general, about *justification*, I take to be false and unscriptural. Your adversaries need take no advantage against you, by any thing I have written; for I think it every minister's duty to declare against the corruptions of that church to which they belong, and not to look upon those as true members of their communion, who deny its publick constitutions. This is your case in *Scotland*, and ours in *England*. I see no other way for us to act at present, than to go on preaching the truth as it is in JESUS; and then if our brethren cast us out, GOD will direct us to take that course which is most conducive to his glory, and his people's good. I think I have but one objection against your proceedings; "Your insisting only on *presbyterian government*, exclusive of all other ways of worshipping GOD." Will not this, *dear Sir*, necessarily lead you (whenever you get the upper-hand) to oppose and persecute all that differ from you in their church government, or outward way of worshipping GOD? Our dear brother and fellow-labourer Mr. *G*——— *T*——— thinks this will be the consequence, and said he would write to you about it. As for my own part, (though I profess myself a minister of the church of *England*) I am of a *catholic spirit*; and if I see a man who loves the LORD JESUS in sincerity, I am not very solicitous to what outward communion he belongs. The kingdom of GOD, I think, does not consist in any such thing. These are my sentiments, dear Sir, and I write them out of love—I am ashamed (because only a babe in CHRIST) to pretend as it were to direct; but true friendship needs no apology. GOD is doing great things in *America*. My journal, which

which I send over with this, will shew you what he has done already. Your welfare is much upon my heart, and as I am enabled, I make mention of you in my prayers. Affairs of the Orphan-house go on well. Some few, even *here*, love the LORD JESUS. Oh, dear Sir, pray for us, and especially for

Your weak unworthy brother
and fellow-labourer in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CLI.

Savannah, Jan. 22, 1740.

My Hon. Friend and Brother in CHRIST,

YOUR last letter quite confounded me. What am I, that I should be thus highly favoured! I can only say, that "Less than the least of all GOD's mercies," shall be my motto still. I have experienced many inward trials, since I saw you last. But I find they work continually for my good. I rejoice in what our dear LORD JESUS has done for your soul. May a double portion of his blessed spirit rest upon you; may our glorious ever-blessed *Emanuel* cause all his glory to pass before you, and may you be filled with all the fulness of GOD! Since my arrival here, I have received a sweet endearing instructive letter from *Mr. Ralph E*———; I have answered it, and told him you promised to write about the necessity of a catholic spirit. *Dr. C*——— also has favoured me with a loving epistle. I have received and read his sermons since I saw you: they are acute and pointed, but I think not searching enough by many degrees—My dear brother, I love writers that go to the bottom — GOD willing, I hope to be with you at the synod—But what think you? I am sometimes doubting, whether I shall have sufficient matter given me to preach upon. Methinks I hear you say, "O thou of little faith! wherefore dost thou doubt? As thy day is, so shall thy strength be." *Michael* and the dragon, I hear, are carrying on war most bravely in *England*. I really believe we shall not die, till we see the kingdom of GOD come with power. The affairs of the orphan-house are in great forwardness. I have much to say; but time and business will not permit. Blessed be GOD, eternity is at hand, and then we shall have time

time enough. I have read some of your books to my great profit. I want to be taught the way of GOD more perfectly all the day long. My tendereſt reſpects await the brethren; my dear fellow-travellers ſalute you—You are often remembered both by them, and

Your affectionate though very weak and unworthy brother, ſervant and fellow-labourer in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLII.

To the Rev. Mr. C. Delamotte

Rev. and dear Sir, *Savannah, Jan.* 24, 1740

I Received your kind, though undeſerving letter, and now ſnatch a few moments from my other avocations, in order to ſend you a ſhort anſwer. May GOD who knits the elect in one communion and fellowſhip, ſanctify our friendſhip and correſpondence to the ſtirring up each other to love and to good works!—It pleaſed me to find you breathe ſo catholic a ſpirit.—O that bigotry and party zeal were not ſo much as once named amongſt us, as becometh ſaints! Since CHRIST is not divided in himſelf, why ſhould chriſtians be divided one amongſt another? Bigotry, I am ſure, can never be the fruit of that wiſdom which cometh from above.—No, it is earthly, ſenſual, and deviliſh. When I come to *New England* I ſhall endeavour to recommend an univerſal charity amongſt all the true members of CHRIST's myſtical body. Perhaps therefore, the fields may be the moſt unexceptionable place to preach in. You and your brethren, I am perſuaded, will follow our LORD even without the camp, and rejoice to bear his ſacred reproach. Aſſiſt me, dear Sir, in your prayers, that my coming may be in the fulneſs of the goſpel of peace—I ſhall come only with my ſling and with my ſtone.—If the LORD ſhall be pleaſed ſo to direct me, that I may ſtrike ſome ſelf-righteous *Goliahs* to the heart, I know you will rejoice with, Rev. and dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in the love of our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CLIII.

To Mr. W. D.

Savannah, Jan. 31, 1740.

My dear Brother in CHRIST,

BLESSED be GOD, for the good report I hear of your zeal for our dear *Emanuel*. Go on, I beſeech you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS; go on, and I am perſuaded the pleaſure of the LORD ſhall proſper in your hands. If I am thrown aſide as a broken veſſel, ſo I ſee you and others ſtirred up to carry on our dear LORD's kingdom, if my heart does not deceive me, I ſhall rejoice, yea, and will rejoice. GOD bleſſes the affairs of the orphan-houſe. The work is large, but we have omnipotence for our ſupport.—I believe I ſhall take in near fifty children. GOD lets me ſee every day, that he orders my goings. He viſits me with inward trials; but if I had not ſuch thorns in the fleſh, what would become of me? Fear not to ſpeak the truth; if driven out of *England*, here is a noble range for you in *America*. At preſent I am reſtrained; but I could not reſt, without letting you have a line from

Your moſt affectionate friend brother, and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CLIV.

To Mrs. D.

Dear Madam, *Savannah, Jan.* 31, 1740.

I REJOICE to hear that you are likely to be caſt out of your mother's Will *only* for following CHRIST. This may be only the beginning of temptations. GOD, I believe, out of love will try you to the uttermoſt. You have drank deep of heavenly comforts; you muſt pledge our LORD in his cup of ſufferings. Thoſe who ſaw him on mount *Tabor* afterwards were with him in the garden. But fear not—The LORD is with you—Neither men nor devils ſhall hurt you. The ſweet communion we have had with GOD, and through him with one another, often comforts my ſoul. Who knows,

but that time may be again repeated? Indeed, I want words as well as time to expreſs with what thankfulneſs I deſire to ſubſcribe myſelf, dear madam,

Your unworthy brother
and obliged ſervant in our common LORD,
G. W.

LETTER CLV.

To Captain M.

Dear Sir, *Savannah, Jan.* 31, 1740.

I Rejoice to hear of your good health, and take this opportunity of ſending you Mr. *Law*'s and Mr. *Haliburton*'s life; which I pray GOD to ſanctify to your benefit and comfort. I hope you will watch over your heart, and take care to keep up thoſe convictions, which GOD once put into your ſoul. I am afraid of Mr. *B.* The world, the world I fear has got hold of him. Dear Captain *M*——, I truſt, will not deſert his Maſter.—I am ſure he would die, rather than prove falſe to an earthly prince.—Oh let him not deſert his dear Redeemer's colours. Dear Sir, beg of GOD to root out of your heart a deſire for that honour which cometh of man. Till dead to the world you will not be alive to GOD. *Honour*, falſely ſo called, has deſtroyed millions. That you may be never carried away with, or ruined by it, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your's, &c.
G. W.

LETTER CLVI.

To the Rev. Mr. W. Tennent

Savannah, Jan. 31, 1740.

My dear and honoured Brother,

BLESSED be GOD, who hath pleaſure in the proſperity of his ſervants.—I am abaſed to think what our all-gracious Redeemer hath done by my unworthy hands, and rejoice to hear that he is working by your's. Oh that you may experience freſh anointings and teaching from above! O that you may be ſtrengthened by GOD's mighty power in the inner man, and pull down ſatan's ſtrong-holds daily. GOD willing, I hope to be with you at the Synod. I find as yet I ſcarce know

know any thing; but if I give out of my little ſtock, I truſt the LORD will increaſe it, as he did the little lad's loaves and fiſhes. My journal, which I have ſent to *Philadelphia*, will tell you what GOD has done in *Maryland* and *Virginia*. A foundation of great things I believe is laying here. Oh pray that a ſenſe of his own littleneſs, may be given to

Your affectionate, though unworthy brother and fellow-labourer in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLVII.

My dear Siſter, *Savannah, Jan.* 31, 1740.

I Rejoice to hear that you are enabled to ſee not only the freeneſs but eternal duration of GOD's grace. Till the ſinner is convinced of this, I am perſuaded he can neither work from a principle of true love, nor give JESUS CHRIST the honour due unto his name. He muſt always be making his ſalvation to depend *partly* at leaſt on his own doings; "If I do ſo and ſo, JESUS CHRIST will give me his grace:" But can any believer who knows himſelf, help confeſſing, that after he had received grace, he ſhould have finally fallen from it, had the continuance of it depended on his own will? Indeed, my dear Siſter, nothing ſo much comforts my own ſoul as the thought that GOD will never leave me nor forſake me; if he does, it muſt be for my unworthineſs: But on that account it cannot be; for he never choſe me on account of my unworthineſs. He loved me freely, he prevented me by his grace; he choſe me from eternity, he called me in time, and I am perſuaded will keep me till time ſhall be no more.—This conſideration makes my faith to work by love. Now, I can live not barely upon my frames, which notwithſtanding are bleſſed things, but on the promiſes. Now, I can go on my way rejoicing, and, amidſt all dejections, lift up my head in proſpect of a certain and exceeding weight of glory. Though I fall, I know I ſhall riſe again; for he that is brought truly to believe on JESUS CHRIST, his faith ſhall never die. The LORD JESUS will not ſuffer to be loſt the purchaſe of his blood. He knew for whom he died, and neither men nor devils ſhall ever pluck them out of his hands. Such as have been taught

moſt of GOD, I find, are thus minded. And I am perſuaded were the effects of our LORD's redemption to depend on a man's own compliance, or was the continuance of GOD's grace to depend ſolely on man's improvement, JESUS CHRIST would have died in vain. *Adam* could not ſtand in paradiſe when left to his own free-will, how then can we? No, bleſſed be GOD, our ſalvation is put into better hands than our own. JESUS CHRIST has purchaſed not only wiſdom, righteouſneſs, and ſanctification, but alſo eternal redemption for us. Let this thought, my dear Siſter, lift up our hands when they hang down, and ſtrengthen our feeble knees; GOD's gifts and callings are without repentance. There is no condemnation to them that are truly in CHRIST JESUS. And I write thus peremptorily to you, becauſe I find now you are able to bear it. —Bleſſed be GOD! my dear Siſter, fleſh and blood has not revealed this unto you. I hope ere long our brethren will lay all carnal reaſoning aſide, and ſee and preach the truth in this reſpect, as it is in JESUS. My kindeſt love to your ſiſter.—What I write to one, I write to both. The LORD direct your going in his way, and cauſe you to continue inſtant in prayer for

Your weak brother and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CLVIII.

To Mrs. Elizabeth W——.

My dear Siſter, *Savannah, Jan.* 31, 1740.

I Have been juſt reading over your letter, and felt a ſweet ſympathy with the writer. Oh that it may increaſe till we are filled with all the fulneſs of GOD! Some paſſages in your letter were dangerous to my ſoul. Whenever you ſee any growth of grace, pray that I may grow in humility in particular. Oh that I was lowly in heart! Honour and diſhonour, good report and evil report would then be alike, and prove a furtherance to me in my chriſtian cauſe.—I believe the time is ſhortly coming in which I am to endure ſomething for my LORD and Maſter; then will I cry out, Who is on the LORD's ſide? Nothing ſupports me under a proſpect of a trying time, ſo much as a ſenſe of GOD's everlaſting love. I am perſuaded, that neither men nor devils ſhall ever pluck me out of his Almighty

Almighty hands. Let this support you, my dear Sister, in your change of life. Wherever you are, I am confident you will have reason to say, "Surely GOD is in this place." That you may wax stronger and stronger, and ripen daily for glory, is the hearty prayer of

Your affectionate brother and servant in our dear *Emanuel*,

G. W.

LETTER CLIX.

To Mr. J. N.

Dear Sir, *Savannah, Jan.* 31, 1740.

I Hope you will excuse my not answering your kind letter sooner.—The many avocations that at present surround me, prevented it. I rejoice to hear that our LORD JESUS is getting himself the victory in the hearts of poor sinners. I hope many will now rejoice in his salvation. One good sign is, that he has employed the meanest, as well as vilest wretch, that he ever yet sent forth.—When I hear that any good is done by my unworthy hands, it almost makes me to blush.—Oh that I could humble myself in the dust, that the LORD alone may be exalted in his strength. I purpose to revisit *New-York* at the appointed time. You told me, "Our LORD has not sent me into his vineyard at my own charge." Indeed, I always find he furnishes me with things convenient: Nay, he is often so abundant in goodness and truth, that I am obliged to cry out in holy admiration, "My LORD and my GOD!" Dear Sir, help me to be thankful. Blessed be GOD, the Orphan-house affairs succeed well. Many souls will be redeemed by it from temporal, and I trust, from eternal bondage. I have taken in upwards of twenty children already, and I take in more daily. — I am building a large house, have many servants, and a good stock of cattle. It will cost much money. —But our LORD will see to that. My friends at *New-York* will assist me when I come amongst them. Oh that my coming may be in the fulness of the blessings of the gospel of peace! I am persuaded, you will not be wanting in your prayers on behalf of, dear Sir,

Your obliged friend and servant in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CLX.

To Mrs. Elizabeth D——.

My dear Sifter in CHRIST, *Savannah, Feb.* 1, 1740.

I Generally obſerve that whom the LORD loves, for the moſt part he keeps from preferment.—Your grandmother cannot do any more than ſhe is permitted. It is GOD's free grace alone, that has made the difference between us and others. Oh that we were duly ſenſible of electing love! Indeed it muſt neceſſarily conſtrain us to obedience. I am glad you like *Boehm*. His works are truly evangelical, and afford ſweet nouriſhment to the new-born ſoul. The nearer we come to GOD, the better we ſhall reliſh ſearching books. It is an evident ſign of a falſe heart, when it is unwilling to be probed. Bleſſed be GOD, you are not thus minded. I truſt the LORD JESUS has apprehended you, and will henceforward never let you go. O that I may hear of your growth in grace, and of your zeal for the LORD OF HOSTS.—You do well to go about doing good; your Maſter did ſo before you. Dare, *dear Miſs*, to follow his good example, and never fear the revilings of men. Set your face as a flint againſt all the adverſaries of our LORD; for ſhortly you ſhall tread all your enemies under feet. I beſeech you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS our Saviour, to keep up a cloſe walk and communion with GOD. Nothing elſe can preſerve you from idols; and you know when once the ſoul is off its watch, the devil makes ſad ravages in it. There is nothing I dread more than having my heart drawn away by earthly objects.—When that time comes, it will be over with me indeed; I muſt then bid adieu to zeal and fervency of ſpirit, and in effect, bid the LORD JESUS to depart from me. For alas, what room can there be for GOD, when a rival hath taken poſſeſſion of the heart? Oh my dear Sifter, pray that no ſuch evil may befal me. My blood runs cold at the very thought thereof. I cannot, indeed; I cannot away with it. In a multiplicity of buſineſs, have I wrote you theſe lines. I thank you for your kind letter, and hope I ſhall always retain a grateful ſenſe of the many favours I have received from your dear family. My kindeſt reſpects attend your ſiſter; I long to hear of her being brought

brought into the glorious liberty of the children of GOD. How does your father? Oh that he may have a well-grounded intereſt in CHRIST! How does my dear brother *Charles?* I pray GOD to fill him with all joy and peace in believing. And how does your little ſiſter? Deareſt Redeemer, keep her unſpotted from the world! My heart is now full. Writing quickens me. I could almoſt drop a tear, and wiſh myſelf, for a moment or two, in *England.* But huſh, nature: GOD here pours down his bleſſings on

Your ſincere friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXI.

To the Rev. Mr. D. R.

Savannah, Feb. 4, 1740.

My reverend and dear Brother,

I Received your kind letter juſt on my arrival at this place.—My journal, which I ſuppoſe you will have read ere this reaches *Wales*, can beſt inform you what GOD hath done for my own and other people's ſouls.—Even here, he is pleaſed to be with and aſſiſt us. The Orphan-houſe goes on bravely. I believe I ſhall take in near fifty children before I return to *England.* He that feedeth the young ravens which call upon him, will not ſuffer them to want.—I rejoice to hear that the LORD JESUS is ſo publicly confeſſed among your countrymen.—If the LORD is pleaſed to ſend me, I ſhall gladly take a tour into *Wales.*—In this time of retirement, I expect many inward conflicts. How otherwiſe ſhall I be prepared for future mercies? Experience of GOD's work upon our own ſouls, is the beſt qualification to preach it effectually to others. In about two months I take another tour round *America.* The goſpel, I believe, will come with power in theſe parts. I expect to ſuffer in the fleſh for what hath been done already: But what have we to do with the conſequences of performing our duty? Leave them to GOD. Oh, my dear brother, pray for me that my faith fail not, and then I care not what perſecution befals

Your weak unworthy brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXII.

To Mr. H. H.

My dear Brother, *Savannah, Feb.* 4, 1740.

WILL this find you in prison or not? Your last letter (which I received upon my arrival here) gave me some expectations that ere long you would be both in prison and bonds. By and by, I shall follow perhaps.—The LORD sanctify all his dispensations to us, and make us not only willing to be bound, but even to die for the sake of our dear Master. When I read how my letters, &c. are blessed to your comfort, it quite confounds me. Oh the free-grace of CHRIST JESUS our LORD! My dear Brother, let us continue instant in season and out of season.—Let us continually preach up free-grace, though we die for it; we cannot lose our lives in a better cause. As I am enabled, I remember you at the throne of grace; in general I sigh out my prayers.—But the spirit, I trust, makes intercession for me with groanings that cannot be uttered.

I have not had much enlargement in preaching, since I have been here; but my heart is often weighed down, and torn to pieces with a sense of my desperately wicked and deceitful heart. I can subscribe to what you say, "Was GOD to leave me to myself, I should be eminent for, and a ring-leader in sin." I sometimes think my heart is more vicious and perverse than any one's; and yet JESUS CHRIST will come and dwell in me.—Methinks I hear you say, "Glory be to free grace: All praise be given to electing love."—Let all that love the LORD JESUS say, *Amen!* Pray write to me as often as possible.—GOD, I believe, is laying a foundation for great things in *Georgia*. I am building a large house, and taking in many children. Wrestle with GOD in behalf of, Brother,

Your's eternally in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CLXIII.

To Mr. H——.

Savannah, Feb. 4, 1740.

HOW is it with your heart? I hope the LORD JESUS leads you on from conquering to conquer, and gets himself the victory every day. I cannot but think that hereafter great things will be done in *America*. GOD seems to have given some earnests of it already. My next journal will acquaint you what they are. It often pleases me, to reflect how CHRIST's kingdom is securely carried on in spite of men and devils, and that too by the weakest instruments in different parts of the world. Surely we shall unite at last, and that glorious time will come, when, with one heart and with one voice, we shall sing praises to him who sitteth upon the throne for ever. A glorious epiphany, I trust, will shortly be made in the hearts of many souls. My dearest Brother, let us do or suffer any thing, so we may be made instruments of beginning and carrying on so divine a work. As for my own part, I often stand astonished at the riches of free distinguishing grace, and I often feel myself so great a sinner, that I am tempted to think, nothing can be blessed which comes from such unhallowed hands and lips; but yet the LORD is with me, and attended his word with mighty power on *Christmas* day. Pray remember me to all friends. I expect you will receive the letters I sent from *Philadelphia*, ere this comes to hand. I depend on seeing your journal, and hope you will accept of my most cordial love from, dearest Brother,

Your's eternally in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CLXIV.

To Mr. H. G.

My dear Brother, *Savannah, Feb.* 4, 1740.

WHAT shall I say to your kind letter? I bless the LORD for awakening you to see the necessity of trusting in a better righteousness than your own, and I adore him for making use of so mean an instrument as I am. It

is a plain proof that the power is not of man, but of GOD alone. Labour, dear Sir, to keep up these convictions in your heart. Now GOD has called you, take care of lying down again.—Be always trimming your lamp, as though you were in expectation every moment to meet the heavenly Bridegroom.—Search more and more into the corruption of your heart, and never rest till GOD's spirit witnesseth with your spirit, that you are a child of GOD. Let the deadness of those around you, excite your zeal. See that you are a burning and a shining light in the midst of such a crooked and perverse generation.—And let a sense of GOD's distinguishing love to you above others, excite you to distinguish yourself by your obedience; still remembering that the LORD JESUS is our whole and everlasting righteousness. That we both may be found in him, is the hearty prayer of

Your sincere friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXV.

To the Rev. Mr. J——.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Savannah, Feb.* 29, 1740.

WITH great pleasure I answer your kind letter, and earnestly pray that GOD would be pleased to sanctify our correspondence. It rejoices my soul, when I find a clergyman that loves our LORD JESUS in sincerity. It is with regret that I speak against any of the sacred function; but when their preaching and walk are directly contrary to the gospel of our LORD JESUS, I cannot but speak to them, as well as to the laity. To the best of my knowledge, I preach the truth as it is in JESUS, and simply aim at bringing souls to him. Blessed be his free grace for the success he hath been pleased to give me. Not unto me, not unto me, but unto his holy name be all the glory! Daily I am convinced, that GOD's hand is not shortened—He blesses me here as well as elsewhere. The Orphan-house is in great forwardness. I feed near an hundred mouths daily, and am assured I serve a GOD who will supply all our wants. It would rejoice me to see you at *Savannah*, if your business will permit.—I can

now provide things convenient for your reception.—In about six weeks I propose, GOD willing, to go northward.—If you can, pray favour me with your company before that time.—My friends will rejoice to hear and see you.—They join with me in affectionate respects to yourself and Mrs. J——. I have sent you a few little tracts, and long for opportunities to convince you, reverend and dear Sir, how sincerely I subscribe myself

Your affectionate brother and fellow-labourer in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CLXVI.

To Captain H. M.

Dear Sir, *Savannah, March* 2, 1740.

WITH pleasure I received your kind letter last night, and immediately prayed, that GOD would never leave you before he had finished the good work begun in your heart. He has given you a rational, I hope ere long, he will give you a *spiritual conviction* of sin and of CHRIST. When that comes, all opposition will fall before it. The world will be as nothing in your eyes, and you will act like a soldier of JESUS CHRIST. Indeed, dear Sir, I travail as it were in birth, till JESUS CHRIST be thoroughly formed within you. If I do not forget my promise, I do not forget your favours.—I make mention of you in my prayers. Linger not, dear Sir, but haste out of your spiritual Sodom. Flee, flee to JESUS CHRIST, whose sacred blood has made an atonement for sinners. Lay hold on his everlasting righteousness, and chuse rather to suffer affliction with the people of GOD, than to enjoy any thing which this world may afford, for a season. Accept the sermons I have herewith sent, and believe me to be, *dear Sir,*

Your affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CLXVII.

To Mr. James S——.

Dear Mr. S. *March* 2, 1740.

BLESSED be GOD, that you are yet alive as to your body; bleſſed be GOD, that ſome ſparks of divine light are yet diſcernible in your ſoul. Indeed, I have been frequently diſtreſſed for you and your companions, leſt ſatan, through the corruption of your hearts, and the deceitfulneſs of worldly buſineſs, ſhould get an advantage over you. Oh watch, my dear friend, watch unto prayer; keep cloſe to GOD through a living faith in his dear Son; forget not your firſt love; forget not a bleeding GOD; forget not *that time*, when your ſoul was about to take its laſt flight. O that I may meet you in triumph at the laſt day! Providence thwarts my ſeeing you. Adieu; write as often as you can. You have my prayers, and as a token of my love, be pleaſed to accept this letter and the books ſent with it, from

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CLXVIII.

To the Hon. J. W.

Honoured Sir, *Savannah, March* 10, 1740.

YESTERDAY, after public worſhip, I received with pleaſure your kind letter, and was immediately ready to cry out, Why do ſo many of my LORD's ſervants take notice of ſuch a dead dog as I am. Surely ſovereign, rich, and free grace was never exalted more than in the mercy ſhewn to me, who am in truth the unworthieſt of the ſons of men.—*Honoured Sir*, it rejoices me to hear that there are ſo many at *New England*, who love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity, and dare to ſhine as lights in the world amongſt a crooked and perverſe generation.—I wiſh they may be all *Aquila*'s and *Priſcilla*'s to me, and teach me the way of GOD more perfectly; for I long to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of my LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST. Oh he is a ſweet maſter; even here do I feel his bleſſed influences, and

rejoice with joy unſpeakable and full of glory.—He is often with us in the midſt of his ſanctuary, and much ſucceeds the Orphan-houſe.—I have digged low, and intend to build it high, becauſe I have a great GOD to pay the charges. I have about thirty-ſix children which I maintain and cloath, and have upwards of forty perſons more who are employed in the work. The plantation is in great forwardneſs.—Many families are kept here by my employing them, and I hope to ſee many a youth bred up for GOD; for I deſign to breed up for the miniſtry, all that at any time I ſhall perceive to be renewed by the Holy Ghoſt, and endued with ſuitable natural abilities. The work, I am perſuaded, is of GOD, and I know he will raiſe up inſtruments to ſupport it. Let him chuſe whom ſeemeth him good.—In about three months, GOD willing, I hope to be near, or at *New England*. I thank you from my ſoul, honoured Sir, for your kind invitation; but, I believe, am pre-engaged to one Mr. *S———d*. The LORD reward both him, and all others who receive me in his name! I have not yet received the books, which you was pleaſed to ſend me, becauſe they are ſent to the ſouthward, but I expect them daily, and doubt not of their being profitable. I know not how to expreſs my gratitude for your great condeſcenſion in writing to me, but that I may always behave ſo as not to be aſhamed of ſubſcribing myſelf

Your obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CLXIX.

To the Rev. Mr. J. W.

Honoured Sir, *Savannah, March*, 26, 1740.

SINCE I returned here, I received your letter and journal.—I thank you for both, and ſhall wait almoſt with impatience to ſee a continuance of your account of what GOD is doing or has done amongſt you—He knows my heart, I rejoice in whatever GOD has done by your hands. I, præ, ſequar, etſi non paſſibus equis.

I could now ſend a particular anſwer to your laſt; but, my honoured friend and brother, for once hearken to a child, who is willing to waſh your feet. I beſeech you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS our LORD, if you would have my

love

love confirmed towards you; write no more to me about misrepresentations wherein we differ. To the best of my knowledge at present, no sin has *dominion* over me, yet I feel the strugglings of indwelling sin day by day; I can therefore by no means come into your interpretation of the passage mentioned in the letter, and as explained in your preface to Mr. *Halyburton*—The doctrine of *election*, and the *final perseverance* of those that are truly in CHRIST, I am ten thousand times more convinced of, if possible, than when I saw you last—You think otherwise: why then should we dispute, when there is no probability of convincing? Will it not in the end destroy brotherly love, and insensibly take from us that cordial union and sweetness of soul, which I pray GOD may always subsist between us? How glad would the enemies of the LORD be to see us divided? How many would rejoice, should I join and make a party against you? And in one word, how would the cause of our common master every way suffer by our raising disputes about particular points of doctrines? *Honoured Sir*, let us offer salvation freely to all by the blood of JESUS; and whatever light GOD has communicated to us, let us freely communicate to others. I have lately read the life of *Luther*, and think it in no wise to his honour, that the last part of his life was so much taken up in disputing with *Zuinglius* and others; who in all probability equally loved the LORD JESUS, notwithstanding they might differ from him in other points. Let this, dear Sir, be a caution to us, I hope it will to me; for by the blessing of GOD, provoke me to it as much as you please, I do not think ever to enter the lists of controversy with you on the points wherein we differ. Only I pray to GOD, that the more you *judge me*, the more I may *love you*, and learn to desire no ones approbation, but that of my LORD and master JESUS CHRIST.——Ere this reaches you, I suppose you will hear of my late excursion to *Charles Town*. A great work I believe is begun there. Enclosed I have sent you Mr. *Garden's letters*—They will serve to convince you, more and more, of the necessity you lie under to be instant in season and out of season. Oh, dear honoured Sir, I wish you as much success as your own heart can wish. Was you here, I would weep over you with tears of love, and tell you what great things GOD hath done for my soul, since we parted

last.

laſt. Indeed and indeed, I often and heartily pray for your ſucceſs in the goſpel: May your inward ſtrength and outward ſphere increaſe day by day! May GOD uſe you as a choice and ſingular inſtrument of promoting his glory on earth, and may I ſee you crowned with an eternal and exceeding weight of glory in the world to come! This is the hearty deſire of, honoured Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CLXX.

To Mr. W.

Savannah, March 26, 1740.

AND how does dear Mr. *Wal*—? His letter lies by me, and I now am inclined to anſwer it. My dear brother, how do you feel your heart? Is it grown ſick of original and actual ſin? Is it grown ſick of unbelief and ſelf-righteouſneſs? Is it cloſely united to the holy JESUS? Do you feed on him in your heart by faith? And do you receive of his fulneſs day by day? I aſk theſe queſtions, becauſe I want to ſee you write of the inward life, and to hear you talk of your having a feeling poſſeſſion of your GOD. For he that believeth aright, hath the witneſs within himſelf. How do the brethren? I hope there is no more ſaying "I am of *Paul*," or "I am of *Apollos*," but that you are only deſirous of being one in CHRIST. I pray for, though diſtant from you. I believe I am preparing a place for many. Our work goes on bravely. I have near forty little ones now in my houſe. Some of them I truſt will be effectually wrought upon, and made chriſtians indeed. We all live in love and unity, and moſt I hope are ſeeking after JESUS CHRIST. He is pleaſed from time to time to manifeſt himſelf to my ſoul, and to ſhew me how unworthy I am of the leaſt mercy. Shortly I ſhall go northward, to preach the goſpel and collect freſh contributions for my orphans. GOD has given me an earneſt of what he will do in *America*, by the large collection that was made at *Charles Town* — I live every day in expectation of hearing from my *London* friends. My brother, the captain, refreſhed my ſoul with glad tidings and letters from *Briſtol*. GOD gave me great comfort and ſatiſ-

faction

faction in converſing with him, and I hope he will be a chriſtian indeed. Adieu. All ſalute you and the brethren.

I am yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXI.

To the Rev. Mr. B. I.

Savannah, March, 28, 1740.

HOW glad ſhould I be of a letter from dear brother *I———?* When ſhall my ſoul be refreſhed, with hearing that the work of the LORD proſpers in his hand? I ſuppoſe before now you have received my letters, and ſeen my journal, and I believe GOD is yet preparing great things for us. Many at *Charles-town*, lately were brought to ſee their want of JESUS CHRIST—Next week, GOD willing, I purpoſe going to *Philadelphia*, and then perhaps may ſee *England* the latter end of this year, or beginning of the next. The orphan-houſe goes on bravely. I have forty children to maintain, beſides workmen and aſſiſtants — The great houſholder of the world does, and will I am perſuaded richly provide for us all. The colony itſelf is in a very declining way. But our extremity is GOD's opportunity—Our brethren I truſt go forwards in the ſpiritual life. I have often great inward trials—Pray that I may be kept in all changes, and ſeeming chances of this mortal life. I believe it to be GOD's will that I ſhould marry. One, who may be looked upon as a ſuperior, is abſolutely neceſſary for the due management of affairs. However, I pray GOD, that I may not have a wife, till I can live as though I had none—You may communicate this to ſome of our intimates; for I would call CHRIST and his diſciples to the marriage. If I am deluded, pray that GOD would reveal it to

Your moſt affectionate brother and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CLXXII.

To Mr. and Mrs. D.

On board the Savannah, bound to Philadelphia from Georgia, April, 4, 1740.

My dear friends,

SINCE I wrote last, we have buried our Sister *L*———. *Rachel* I left at *Philadelphia*, and sister *T*——— seems to be in a declining state; so that sister *A*——— alone is like to be left of all the women which came over with me from *England*. I find by experience, that a mistress is absolutely necessary for the due management of my increasing family, and to take off some of that care, which at present lies upon me. Besides, I shall in all probability, at my next return from *England*, bring more women with me: and I find, unless they are all truly gracious (or indeed if they are) without a superior, matters cannot be carried on as becometh the gospel of JESUS CHRIST. It hath been therefore much impressed upon my heart, that I should marry, in order to have a help meet for me in the work whereunto our dear LORD JESUS hath called me. This comes (like *Abraham*'s servant to *Rebekah's* relations) to know whether you think your daughter, *Miss E*———, is a proper person to engage in such an undertaking? If so; whether you will be pleased to give me leave to propose marriage unto her? You need not be afraid of sending me a refusal. For, I bless GOD, if I know any thing of my own heart, I am free from that foolish passion, which the world calls LOVE. I write, only because I believe it is the will of GOD, that I should alter my state; but your denial will fully convince me, that your daughter is not the person appointed by GOD for me. He knows my heart; I would not marry but for him, and in him, for ten thousand worlds. —But I have sometimes thought *Miss E*——— would be my help-mate; for she has often been impressed upon my heart. I should think myself safer in your family, because so many of you love the LORD JESUS, and consequently would be more watchful over my precious and immortal soul. After strong crying and tears at the throne of grace for direction, and after unspeakable troubles with my own heart, I write this.

Be

Be pleaſed to ſpread the letter before the LORD; and if you think this motion to be of him, be pleaſed to deliver the incloſed to your daughter — If not, ſay nothing, only let me know you diſapprove of it, and that ſhall ſatisfy, dear Sir and Madam,

Your obliged friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXIII.

To Miſs E———.

On board the Savannah, April 4th, 1740.

BE not ſurpriſed at the contents of this:—The letter ſent to your honoured father and mother will acquaint you with the reaſons. Do you think, you could undergo the fatigues, that muſt neceſſarily attend being joined to one, who is every day liable to be called out to ſuffer for the ſake of JESUS CHRIST? Can you bear to leave your father and kindred's houſe, and to truſt on him, (who feedeth the young ravens that call upon him) for your own and childrens ſupport, ſuppoſing it ſhould pleaſe him to bleſs you with any? Can you undertake to help a huſband in the charge of a family, conſiſting perhaps of a hundred perſons? Can you bear the inclemencies of the air both as to cold and heat in a foreign climate? Can you, when you have an huſband, be as though you had none, and willingly part with him, even for a long ſeaſon, when his LORD and maſter ſhall call him forth to preach the goſpel, and command him to leave you behind? If after ſeeking to GOD for direction, and ſearching your heart, you can ſay, "I can do all thoſe things through CHRIST ſtrengthening me," what if you and I were joined together in the LORD, and you came with me at my return from *England*, to be a help meet for me in the management of the orphan-houſe? I have great reaſon to believe it is the divine will that I ſhould alter my condition, and have often thought you was the perſon appointed for me. I ſhall ſtill wait on GOD for direction, and heartily intreat him, that if this motion be not of him, it may come to nought.—I write thus plainly, becauſe, I truſt, I write not from any other principles but the love of GOD.—I ſhall make it my buſineſs to call on the LORD JESUS, and would adviſe you to conſult both him

and

and your friends ——— For in order to attain a bleſſing, we ſhould call both the LORD JESUS and his diſciples to the marriage—I much like the manner of *Iſaac*'s marrying with *Rebekah*, and think no marriage can ſucceed well, unleſs both parties concerned are like-minded with *Tobias* and his wife—I think I can call the God of *Abraham*, *Iſaac* and *Jacob*, to witneſs that I deſire " to take you my ſiſter to wife, not for luſt, but uprightly ;" and therefore I hope he will mercifully ordain, if it be his bleſſed will we ſhould be joined together, that we may walk as *Zachary* and *Elizabeth* did, in all the ordinances of the LORD blameleſs. I make no great profeſſion to you, becauſe I believe you think me ſincere. The paſſionate expreſſions which carnal courtiers uſe, I think, ought to be avoided by thoſe that would marry in the LORD. I can only promiſe, by the help of GOD, " to keep my matrimonial vow, and to do what I can towards helping you forward in the great work of your ſalvation." If you think marriage will be any way prejudicial to your better part, be ſo kind as to ſend me a denial. I would not be a ſnare to you for the world. You need not be afraid of ſpeaking your mind. I truſt, I love you only for GOD, and deſire to be joined to you only by his command, and for his ſake. With fear and much trembling I write, and ſhall patiently tarry the LORD's leiſure, till he is pleaſed to incline you, dear Miſs *E*——, to ſend an anſwer to

Your affectionate brother, friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXIV.

To Mr. H——.

On board the Savannah, April 10, 1740.

IT is now full time to anſwer your letter. You acknowledge me the firſt inſtrument, under GOD (for ever adored be the riches of his free grace) of awakening you to the divine life : and ſhall not I endeavour to quicken and inflame the heavenly ſpark infuſed into your ſoul ? GOD forbid ! Oh that my power was equal to my will ! How ſhould my dear brother *H*—— glow with divine love, and lean by faith on the boſom of his deareſt Redeemer ! But I truſt ere now you have indeed received the Holy Ghoſt, and know what it is to feaſt on a

crucified JESUS. Does he not, my dear brother, often manifeſt himſelf ſweetly to your panting ſoul? Does he not often teach you the hidden things of the kingdom of GOD? Does he not tell you that he loves you, and will ſuffer nothing to pluck you out of his almighty hand? Thus often is he pleaſed to manifeſt himſelf to me: and who then dares deſpair? No; I can aſſure the worſt, the chief of ſinners, that JESUS CHRIST came to ſave them. My dear brother, here are glad tidings of great joy! The fire kindles whilſt I am muſing. Oh let us call all to come and ſee Him, who has forgiven us all the ſins that ever we committed. Is not this the CHRIST? Adieu. My hearty and deareſt love to all. Fail not writing to

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXV.

To Mr. C———.

My dear Brother, *On board the Savannah, April* 10, 1740.

YOU, as well as your dear aſſociates, are much upon my heart. I long to hear that you are advanced in grace, and grown in the knowledge of CHRIST JESUS your LORD. I ſay *your Lord*; for I hope, ere now, you can appropriate CHRIST to yourſelf, and, without the leaſt diffidence or doubt, cry out aſſuredly, "My LORD and my GOD." When the ſoul ſays this, *then*, but not till then, is it truly married to the dear LORD JESUS; then are we true children of the bridegroom, and are real partakers of the ſupper of the Lamb. This, this is faith: this is believing; not with the head; not in notion only; but with the heart, indeed and in truth. The ſoul now puts its *amen*, and ſets the ſeal to GOD's everlaſting promiſes; it now ſoars upwards towards heavenly things, and feels continually the inviſible realities of another world. Though ſometimes overſhadowed by a cloud, yet ſtill it knows that its Redeemer liveth, and juſtifieth the ungodly. It cannot doubt of his favour, though ſometimes he is pleaſed to withdraw his ſenſible preſence. The root of the matter is twiſted round every faculty of the ſoul, which daily is ſupported with this aſſurance, that CHRIST can no more forſake the ſoul he loves, than he can forſake himſelf. Oh my dear brother,

ther, I find myself much carried out to write of that divine life, that divine mystery of godliness, the hidden kingdom of GOD in the heart. If any thing I can say, or do, or write, may be any way serviceable to dear Mr. *G*—, it will much rejoice

His most unworthy brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXVI.

To Mr. I— B—.

On board the Savannah, April 10, 1740.

My dear, dear Friend,

I Remember your words that day I took my leave of you, with Dr. *John S*—, at *London*. I have not forgotten you, therefore do I now write a line to my dear Mr. *B*—. May the Holy Ghost come upon him, and the power of the Highest overshadow him; and may our glorious Redeemer never cease striving with him, till he hath a witness within himself that he is a true child of GOD. Oh, when will you answer the character of your name-sake and forefather *Isaac!* When, like him, will my dear friend give himself up a whole burnt-offering unto the LORD! May I hear that you have recovered your first love, and are, as formerly, zealous of good works! I think I never yet really doubted of your return. If prayers to GOD, if entreaties to him, can bring my dear friend back, he shall not be led away captive by the world; he shall, he shall be a Christian indeed. I long to see you, and till then shall wrestle with strong cryings and many tears with my dear LORD JESUS, in your behalf. I feel, I feel CHRIST's love; I can no more doubt of my interest in him, than I can of the shining of the sun at noon day. He fills, he sweetens and gladdens my soul; he loves me freely: he will bring me to behold his glory. I think I could now bid to men and devils defiance. Who is he that condemneth? It is CHRIST that justifies, who even now sitteth in heaven to make intercession *for me*. You see, my dear friend, I am upon the mount. I know not how to stop. It is true, I must come down; but it is only that I may go up again, and take a view of the heavenly *Canaan*. I am now near the port whither we are bound:

yet a little while, and I shall be in heaven; and shall I not meet my dear *I*—— there? God forbid! No, no; I cannot bear the thought of it. Away, my dear, dear brother, to JESUS CHRIST. Lay hold on his everlasting righteousness: look, look unto him by faith, and be saved. Call your dear wife to look also. Help, oh help her in the great work of her salvation; and breed up your dear child in the nurture and admonition of the LORD. Adieu. My heart is full. With sincerity I subscribe myself

Your's most affectionately in our dearest,

dearest LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXVII.

To Mr. N——.

My Dear Brother, *On board the Savannah*, *April* 10, 1740.

I Have been a few days returned from *Charles-Town*, where our dear LORD JESUS, I trust, has begun a glorious work. Many came to me under convictions, and were made to cry out, "What shall we do to be saved?" The people were exceeding desirous of my return amongst them. If I call there, as I come northward, it may prevent my being at *New-York* so soon as was proposed. The LORD direct my going in his way. A *Fosterian Preacher* lost ground there. I think you are not much to be blamed for going out of church; but perhaps it might be better, on another such occasion, to hear the whole discourse, and then go and converse with the preacher upon it; otherwise a man may say, you are angry, and could not judge, because you did not hear all. Praise is more dangerous than contempt: but when our LORD's honour can be promoted by the display of our graces, we need not fear. His grace will be sufficient for us. I know not what person it is that you would not have me be so open to, unless it be Mr. ——. I had rather be too open than too reserved. Simplicity much becomes the *Israel* of GOD. A few days past, with full assurance of faith, I laid the first brick of our great house: *Jeremiah* bought land when the people were leading into captivity. My family daily increase, and, blessed be GOD, as yet I am kept from doubting. Pray that my faith may never fail. Some of the

the *Germans* in *America* are holy ſouls, and deſerve the character they bear. They keep up a cloſe walk with GOD, and are remarkable for their ſweetneſs and ſimplicity of behaviour. They talk little, and think much. Moſt of them, I believe, are *Lutherans*. But where there is the image of my dear Maſter, there are my affections drawn. This is the catholic ſpirit you breathe after: the LORD, I am perſuaded, will give it to your ſoul. All that people do ſay of me, affects me but little; becauſe I know worſe of myſelf than they can ſay concerning me. My heart is deſperately wicked. Was GOD to leave me, I ſhould be a remarkable ſinner. But redeeming love, I believe, will not let us go. Oh! dear Mr. *N.* pray, and give thanks for me. I daily taſte that the LORD is gracious. All things go on well. My dear brethren ſalute you, as does

Your affectionate, unworthy brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXVIII.

To Mr. S——.

Willingtown, (Penſylvania) April 14, 1740.

READ where I am, and judge whether or not I am a ſtranger and pilgrim upon earth. Yeſterday, after a ſhort paſſage of ten days, did GOD bring us from *Georgia* to *New-Caſtle:* there I preached twice. To-day I ſhall preach here, and in the evening hope to reach *Philadelphia.* People are much alarmed already; and great things, I find, GOD has been pleaſed to do, by what he enabled me to deliver when laſt here. Two miniſters have been convinced of their formal ſtate, notwithſtanding they held and preached the doctrines of grace. One plainly told the congregation he had been deceiving himſelf and them, and could not preach any more, but deſired the people to pray with him. Another is as a flame of fire, and hath been much owned of GOD. An oppoſer reading my ſermon, in order to convince them I did not preach as Mr. *T*——, was much diſappointed; for power went along with the ſermon, GOD's ſpirit fell on the people, and formal oppoſers went affrighted away. It is unknown what a glorious ſtir here is in the province. Many, very many, I be-

lieve, of late have been brought savingly to believe on the LORD JESUS. The work much increases, and here is employment for many months: but I must return shortly to *Savannah*. A primitive spirit revives; and many, I hope, will be brought to live stedfast in the apostles doctrine, in fellowship, and breaking of bread, and in prayer. Perhaps dear Mr. *S*— may be one of them. Pray how does that young man do? Is he deeply humbled, and closely united to the dear LORD JESUS? Does he feel himself a poor sinner, and daily experience the outgoing and incoming of the blessed spirit in the sanctuary of his heart? Blessed be GOD, I do: even whilst I am writing I feel his power. I am persuaded I shall be more than conqueror over every evil, through my Redeemer's love. Oh! my dear friend, keep close to the dear LORD JESUS! Do not go without his leading, and then you are safe, though in the midst of devils. Adieu.

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXIX.

To Madam C——.

Madam, *New Brunswick*, *April* 27, 1740.

ALL things go on well in *America*—nay, better than I dare ask, or could think. Our LORD's kingdom comes with power. It is amazing to see how GOD is present in our assemblies: I refer you to dear brother *S*—— for particulars. My animal spirits are exhausted, but I am filled within. Nature would sometimes cry out, "Spare thyself;" but when I am offering JESUS to poor sinners, I cannot forbear exerting all my powers. Oh that I had a thousand lives! my dear LORD JESUS should have them all. I long to be out of the body, that I may love and serve him as I would: but I must suffer before I can reign with him. That you and I may never deny our LORD, is the earnest prayer of, Madam,

Your obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CLXXX.

To Mr. M———.

New Brunſwick, April 28, 1740.

BLESSED be GOD, I can ſend you glad tidings of great joy. Our LORD JESUS is getting himſelf the victory in theſe parts. The Orphan-houſe affairs go forward beyond expectation. I have upwards of *forty children* in my houſe at *Savannah*, near *ſeventy perſons* in family, and upwards of an *hundred people* to provide for every day. As yet we want for nothing. The great houſholder of mankind gives us all things richly to enjoy, and, I am perſuaded, will provide for us whilſt we truſt in him. I had rather live by faith, and depend on GOD for the ſupport ofmy great, and yet increaſing family, than to have the largeſt viſible fund in the univerſe. About five weeks ago the LORD ſtirred up the *Charles-Town* people to contribute upwards of ſeventy pounds ſterling towards the ſupport of my little ones. A glorious work was alſo begun in the hearts of the inhabitants; and many were brought to cry out, "What ſhall we do to be ſaved?" A fortnight ago, after a ſhort paſſage of ten days, I landed in *Penſylvania*, and have had the pleaſure of ſeeing and hearing, that my poor endeavours for promoting CHRIST's kingdom, when there laſt, were not altogether vain in the LORD. I cannot well tell you how many have come unto me, labouring under the deepeſt convictions, and ſeemingly deſirous of finding reſt in JESUS CHRIST. Several have, I humbly hope, actually received him into their hearts by faith, and have not only righteouſneſs and peace, but alſo joy in the Holy Ghoſt. In ſhort, the word hath run and been much glorified; and many *Negroes* alſo are in a fair way of being brought home to GOD. I daily receive freſh and moſt importunate invitations to preach in all the adjacent countries. GOD is pleaſed to give a great bleſſing to my printed Sermons: they are now in the hands of thouſands in theſe parts, and are a means, under GOD, of enlightening and building up many in their moſt holy faith. Since ſuch an effectual door is opened for preaching the everlaſting goſpel, you will not be ſurprized if I acquaint you there are many adverſaries. The *Clergy*, I find, are greatly offended at me. The

commiſſary of *Philadelphia*, having got a little ſtronger party than when I was there laſt, has thrown off the maſk, denied me the pulpit, and laſt *Sunday* preached up an *hiſtorical faith*, and *juſtification by works*. But people only flock the more to me. The power of GOD is more viſible than ever in our aſſemblies; and more than ever before are convinced that I preach the doctrine of JESUS CHRIST. Some few bigotted ſelf-righteous *Quakers* alſo, now begin to ſpit out a little of the ſerpent: they cannot bear the doctrine of *original ſin*, or of *imputed righteouſneſs* as the cauſe of our acceptance with GOD. One calls original ſin "original nonſenſe;" and ſeveral have been to me, under the apprehenſion of being thruſt out, for owning and confeſſing what I take to be the truth as it is in JESUS. God has now brought me to *New Brunſwick*, where I am bleſſed with the converſation of Mr. *G— T—*. Indeed he is a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST, and GOD is pleaſed in a wonderful manner to own both him and his brethren. The congregations where they have preached have been ſurprizingly convicted and melted down. They are unwearied in doing good, and go out into the highways and hedges to compel poor ſinners to come in. Yeſterday alſo I heard of two miniſters in *Long Iſland*, near *New-York*, who had large communications from GOD, and have been inſtrumental in bringing many ſouls to CHRIST. I could add more; but I muſt away: the people are waiting for a ſpiritual meal. They fly to the doctrine as doves to the windows, and I truſt the LORD is now reviving his work in the midſt of the years. With great difficulty I have redeemed time to ſend you theſe few lines. I hope you and the reſt of my dear friends continue to pray for me: for I believe never was ſo weak a wretch ſent on ſuch an important errand. But when I am weak, then am I ſtrong. My bodily ſtrength, by frequent journeying and continued ſpeaking, ſometimes fails me; but the LORD quickens and ſtrengthens me by his mighty power. The more I am oppoſed, the more joy I feel; and the firſt fruits of GOD's ſpirit, which he hath imparted to my ſoul, are ſo ſweet, that I almoſt with impatience wait till I reap a full harveſt in the fruition of my GOD. Continue, I beſeech you, to intercede

for

for me; and reſt ſatisfied that both you and my other *Engliſh* friends are always remembered by

Yours,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXXI.

To W. S. Eſq.

My dear Brother, *Reedy Iſland, May* 19, 1740.

I Know very well what it is to part from a friend which is as one's own ſoul; and therefore could in ſome meaſure ſympathize with you in what you felt when parting from me. The good LORD ſanctify my friendſhip to you, and grant we may go hand in hand to heaven. One of the incloſed papers will ſhew you the event of what you inſerted (unknown to me) in the News. However, be not diſheartened; GOD ſhall make even this to work together for your good. The war between *Michael* and the dragon has much increaſed. Mr. *C*— has preached moſt of his people away from him. He laſhed me moſt bravely the *Sunday* before I came away. Mr. *A*—— alſo preaches againſt me. Mr. *C*— did not come to take his leave of me; and Mr. *J*— is very inveterate. Now I believe our LORD's kingdom will come with power. At *New-York* the word ran. Twice or thrice our LORD appeared for us in a moſt glorious manner. Mr. *T*— and his brethren glow with divine warmth; and I have converſed with one of the miniſters of *Long Iſland*, whom GOD has lately ſent forth: he is a ſweet zealous ſoul. Laſt week, at *Nottingham* and Mr. *B*—'s, how did GOD manifeſt his glory! We had about twelve thouſand hearers; and ſuch a melting, ſuch a crying, (they ſay) was ſcarcely ever ſeen. Bleſſed be GOD, the devil's children begin to throw off the maſk. I want to draw the lingering battle on. At *Philadelphia* affairs go on better and better; only Satan now begins to throw many into fits. I have generally preached twice and rode near thirty miles a-day ſince you left me. The LORD hath been my ſupport, and has often ſo melted me with a ſenſe of his free, ſovereign, and everlaſting love, that ſome thought I was giving up the ghoſt. Oh never let go your ſenſe of GOD's ſovereign, everlaſting love! It is food to my poor ſoul. Was it not for that, ſurely I muſt ſink under

under the prospect of the labours and sufferings that are before me. My dear brother, What is the LORD doing in these parts? I believe the work will go on better here than in *England*. We are more united in our principles, and do not print one against another. Pray observe the hint given to *Captain G———*, and let the LORD order for me as it shall seem good in his sight. We are now at *Reedy Island* waiting for a wind. I heard of a ship going to *Dublin*, and could not lose the opportunity of writing to my dear brother *S———*. I need not remind you to hasten over as fast as possible—Our LORD has taught you not to stay by the way—I have rebuked Mr. *C———* sharply, and I trust have gotten some gracious souls on board—The LORD is with me; I am somewhat better as to bodily health, but I live chiefly on inward supplies from above. My master never fails me. Oh exhort all to fall in love with JESUS, and to pray for,

Ever yours in the best bonds,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXXII.

To Mr. M———, an Indian Trader.

Dear Mr. M———, *Reedy Island, May* 19, 1740.

I Received your letter, and have been reading part of your journal. I think it your bounden duty to go amongst the *Indians* again, not as a *minister*, but as a private christian, whose duty it is, when converted himself, to strengthen his brethren. An effectual door, I would hope, is opening amongst some of the heathen. I remember, when it was first impressed upon me, that I should go to *Georgia*, this promise came with such power as never will be forgotten, and that too, long before I had any outward call—"I have made thee the head of the heathen."—I speak this for your encouragement, but desire you would not mention it to others. Who knows but that time may be now near at hand?—However that be, it is plain GOD calls you, and I wish you good success in the name of the LORD. Be sure you keep a close walk with GOD. —Be much in prayer, and prepare for the greatest hardships. Your greatest perils will be amongst your own countrymen. The heathens will be stirred up by them, as the Gentiles were

by

by the Jews; but the LORD JESUS will make you more than conqueror over all. The word of the LORD will make its own way. Beg of GOD to give you true notions of our free juſtification by faith in JESUS CHRIST. Bring your *Indian* hearers to believe, before you talk of baptiſm, or the ſupper of the LORD. Otherwiſe they will catch at a ſhadow, and neglect the ſubſtance. Improve the leiſure you now enjoy, and ſee that you feel the truths you ſpeak. Feed on this promiſe, "It ſhall be given you in that hour what you ſhall ſay." Your circumſtances call for a fulfilling of it — Tell them what GOD has been doing here, and how happy JESUS CHRIST will make them. Be ſure tell them, tell them, that true faith is not merely in the head, but in the heart, and that it will certainly be productive of good works. Frequently meditate on GOD's free love to yourſelf, and that will beſt qualify you to ſpeak of it affectionately to others. I could ſay more, but time will not permit. Pray for me. All with me ſalute you. My poor petitions you may depend on, as the LORD ſhall enable me. My love to all, and believe me to be

Your affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXXIII.

To the Allegany Indians.

My Dear Brethren, *Reedy Iſland, May* 21, 1740.

FOR ſo I call you, becauſe you, and I, and all, have one common father, ONE GOD, in whom we live, move and have our beings We all came at firſt out of the duſt of the earth. For after GOD made the ſun, moon, ſtars, and every thing you ſee, he alſo made a creature called *man*, and breathed into him the breath of life; he then became a living ſoul. He could not only walk and ſpeak, but he could alſo think, and reaſon, and was full of goodneſs, peace, and joy. This man, this happy creature GOD placed in a garden, which his own right hand had planted. He then caſt him into a deep ſleep, and out of one of his ribs made what we call a woman, that ſhe might be his wife. Their names were *Adam* and *Eve*. With theſe, GOD made an agreement that they ſhould eat

eat of every tree of that garden, except one; but if they ate the fruit of that particular tree, they ſhould die; they ſhould return to the duſt from whence they were taken, loſe the comforts they enjoyed in their ſouls, and be unhappy for ever in another world. But if they did not eat this fruit, none of theſe things ſhould come upon them. A being, which we call the *devil*, (and who for his pride had been caſt out of heaven) envying their happineſs, tempted them to eat the forbidden fruit. They conſented, they ate, they died. Their bodies became mortal, their ſouls were deprived of the preſence and love of GOD; and unleſs a way was found out to make ſatisfaction for what they had done, they muſt have been loſt for ever. Theſe were our parents, and GOD made this agreement with us their children, as well as with them. For they acted in our name, as a king acts in the name of his people, or a father in the name of a child—What therefore befel them, befel us. We died in them; and come into this world poor and miſerable, blind and naked, as they were, when they had eaten of the forbidden tree. Hence it is, that we are given to luſt, anger, envy, hatred, pride, and malice, and all thoſe troubleſome paſſions which you all muſt feel in your own hearts, and cannot but ſee even in the hearts of your children. If then, you only look into yourſelves, you muſt confeſs theſe things are ſo. But GOD hath given us a *book*, wherein he aſſures us of the truth of all this: — And we know that book came from GOD, becauſe none but GOD could tell us the things therein contained. And I ſpeak firſt of this, becauſe 'till you feel and believe this, you cannot come to the knowledge of JESUS CHRIST; and without the knowledge of JESUS CHRIST you cannot be ſaved. For after our firſt parents, *Adam* and *Eve*, had taken the forbidden fruit, and with all their children, thereafter to be born, became guilty before GOD, GOD out of his own free love ſent his only begotten Son into the world, to die, and ſo to make an atonement for the ſin of fallen man, and alſo to obey the law, which man had broken; ſo that though fallen man had no righteouſneſs of his own, yet upon believing in GOD's Son, he ſhould find a perfect righteouſneſs in him. This Son is called JESUS, "A Saviour," becauſe he was to ſave us from

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the guilt and power of our ſins. He was truly GOD, and therefore could ſatisfy; he was truly man, and therefore could obey and ſuffer in our ſtead. He was GOD and man in one perſon, that GOD and man might be happy together again. My dear brethren, (for ſo I muſt call you, though I never ſaw you) theſe are ſtrange things. But if you are willing to learn, the holy ſpirit ſhall teach you. For JESUS CHRIST by dying, and obeying GOD's law, hath bought for us the holy ſpirit, who ſhall change your corrupt natures, and fit you for happineſs hereafter with the ever-bleſſed GOD, if you do but believe in your hearts.—Thouſands of white people only believe in their heads, and therefore are no more chriſtians than thoſe who never heard of JESUS CHRIST at all. They call CHRIST, "Lord, Lord," but they do not live as JESUS CHRIST hath commanded. No, they curſe and ſwear, they break the ſabbath, they get drunk, they play, they whore, they commit adultery, and have taught many poor *Indians* to do theſe abominable things as well as themſelves. Do not you therefore learn of them. For true chriſtians are ſober, chaſte and holy. They will not get drunk, they will not play the whore, they will not cheat, lie, curſe or ſwear; but they will bleſs and praiſe GOD, keep the ſabbath, and do all the good they can; for thus JESUS CHRIST, their LORD and maſter, lived when he was here on earth. I ſay, when he was here on earth; for after he died, he roſe again, and went up into heaven from whence he came, and there he ſits praying for all that ſhall believe on Him to the end of the world. For as the world had a beginning, ſo it alſo will have an end. And JESUS CHRIST will come again in the clouds to judge all mankind; and then he that hath believed in CHRIST, and hath ſhewn forth his faith by his works, ſhall be ſaved; and he that hath not believed in CHRIST, ſhall be damned for ever, and be caſt into a lake of fire and brimſtone. But before he comes, he hath promiſed that the heathen ſhall be brought to believe on him, and therefore I write this letter to you. I would come myſelf, and preach the glad tidings of ſalvation among you, as the bearer of this could interpret for me; but my other buſineſs will not permit. I am a miniſter of the ſame JESUS, and once was as ignorant of Him comparatively as you may be. I once lived like other people;

but

but the LORD JESUS hath brought me to believe on Him, and I now do so no more. I once was full of envy, hatred, malice, and such like cursed tempers; but now I have love, and peace, and joy. And because JESUS CHRIST hath shewn such mercy to me, I desire that all others should be made as happy, nay happier than I am myself. — Hearken therefore now to the voice of the LORD. Pray to GOD that you may feel yourselves poor, miserable sinners, and come by a living faith to JESUS CHRIST. Then he will pardon you of all your sins, make you holy by his spirit here, and take you into everlasting happiness hereafter. Your traders, some of them at least, will tell you, that you must be miserable, if you will be christians. But these know nothing of JESUS CHRIST; for they are ungodly men, walking after their own wicked lusts. Whosoever will follow JESUS CHRIST, though happy in himself, must be looked upon as a fool by others. The spirit of the world, and the spirit of JESUS are quite contrary one to the other; and therefore if you will live godly in Him, you must suffer persecution; you must have all manner of evil spoken against you falsely, and be called madmen and fools; but let not that daunt you, or make you afraid. There is a world to come, there is a judgment-day, and then JESUS CHRIST shall crown all those with glory, who have suffered for his name's sake. Once more, therefore, hearken to the voice of the LORD. For the LORD JESUS died for you, as well as for the white men among you, and that you might be taught the gospel; but they have made you worse than you were before, and therefore shall receive the greater damnation. He who brings this, no doubt, will be despised amongst them, because he will, I hope, neither get drunk, nor curse, nor swear.—But I trust the LORD will strengthen him, and cause him to shew many of you the true way of salvation — I shall not fail to pray for him, and for you; for though I know you not, yet if I could thereby save your precious souls, I think I could die for your sake. May the LORD JESUS bless you, and bring you out of darkness into his marvellous light, for his infinite mercy's sake. This is the prayer of, dear brethren,

Your soul's well-wisher and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CLXXXIV.

To the Rev. Mr. I——, at Philadelphia

My dear Brother, *Reedy Island, May* 21, 1740.

STILL our LORD is with me both in the ship and on the shore. Adore him for his free grace. Sailors, I believe, are coming to JESUS. One or two of our crew are under convictions. The LORD does not keep me here for nothing. I desire to learn of winds and storms to obey Him. I pray daily for your success. May the LORD make you a happy instrument of bringing many sons to glory. Your weakness need not discourage you. The LORD is pleased to make use of me. He strengthens me mightily in the inner man. Oh grace, grace! "Less than the least of all," shall be my motto still. I need not exhort you to feed the flock of GOD; he has purchased them with his own blood. Oh admit of a *mixed communion.* I think the glory of GOD requires this at your hands. May the LORD give you a right understanding in all things, and enable you to remember

Your unworthy brother and fellow-labourer
in our dear LORD JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CLXXXV.

To Mr. M——, at Philadelphia.

Dear Mr. M. *Reedy Island, May* 21, 1740.

AS the LORD is pleased to detain me here by contrary winds, why should I not send you a line? You have stood up for the truths of GOD, and, I trust, will not be ashamed of our LORD and his gospel. I expect a great falling away amongst those that followed me: But I hope dear Mr. *M.* will continue stedfast and unmoveable to the last. The only way, is to keep a constant eye to CHRIST, to go forth in his strength, and never to rest till you feel his blessed truths copied and transcribed on your heart. You have often heard me exclaim against resting on a *head-knowledge.* You are a man of strong passions, and sprightly imagination, and therefore (I know you will not be affronted) you will make either

a great saint, or an accomplished ——. I believe the former, though, as a friend, I remind you of, and caution you against the latter. You love to be dealt plainly with. Oh, dear Sir, I feel that I love you, and have a real concern for you and your household.—What would I give to see your daughters become wise virgins, and fallen in love with the blessed JESUS. How amiable would they then appear! But before this can be done, all pertness, and lightness of spirit, must be taken away, and they must not only leave off dancing, but be made new creatures. How is your son? Pray tell him it is time for him to come home. The fatted calf waits for him. I could say more; but time will not permit. Dear Sir, pray for me. Indeed I will endeavour to return the favour; many are waiting for, and would rejoice at my halting; but the LORD is my helper. He is with me in my little cabin, and gives me a feeling possession of his blessed spirit. May the LORD enrich you with a great measure of it, and fill you with all his fulness! Methinks I see you lifting up your eyes, and saying, *Amen.*— And so saith, dear Mr. *M.*

Your affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXXVI.

To Mr. R——, at Philadelphia.

Dear R.. *Reedy Island, May* 22, 1740.

LET nothing said to you in my absence affect you. GOD has lately delivered you out of one snare; take heed how you fall into another. If you watch unto prayer, who knows but GOD may bless your endeavours amongst the poor negro women and children? I could not wish you more happily situated.—My love to all the society.—Exhort them not to rest in good desires. Shew them, O shew them the necessity of being deeply wounded, before they can be capable of healing by JESUS CHRIST. Bid them to beware of a light behaviour, and light company. Both do grieve the blessed spirit of GOD. Take heed, take heed of those accursed snares. I could say more, but time will not permit. My love to the *Negro Peggy*, and all her black sisters. Bid them to pray for me. May the blood of JESUS wash away all the pollutions

of

of their ſin-ſick ſouls! What if they were put into a ſociety by themſelves, and you, or ſome white woman, meet with them? The good LORD direct and bleſs you in all things.—This is the hearty prayer of

Your ſincere friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXXVII.

To Mr. E———.

Reedy Iſland, May 22, 1740.

GOD only knows when the wind will favour our removal hence; I deſire patiently to tarry the LORD's leiſure, and to wait the moving of the cloud of his providence. However, in the mean while I ſend you a line amongſt my other friends. GOD, I believe, hath ſtruck you to the heart, and ſhewn you the rottenneſs of that foundation whereon you was once building. O keep cloſe to our dear LORD JESUS, and never fear what men or devils can ſay of, or do unto you. I am perſuaded you muſt be buffeted.—You muſt be perſecuted, if you will live godly in CHRIST JESUS. Let this be your comfort, when the world forſakes you, the LORD whom you ſerve, ſhall take you up. I pray for you, and my other dear *Philadelphia* friends daily. The LORD be with you all. Adieu. You would do well to publiſh, "that all who have not been baptized already, and ſhall appear to be prepared for it, I will, by GOD's leave, baptize, at my return to *Philadelphia*." O that all who followed me were baptized with the Holy Ghoſt! But there muſt be a falling away.—Dear Mr. *E*——, I truſt, will not deſert his LORD. Truſt in his, and not in your own ſtrength, and you ſhall be ſafe. Once more farewel. All with me ſalute you. The people on ſhore wait for me. Remember me in your prayers as

Your affectionate ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXXVIII.

To the Members of a Society at Philadelphia.

My dear Friends, *Reedy Island, May* 22, 1740.

AS the LORD, for wise reasons, detains me here, I cannot but send you a line as a token of my unfeigned concern for the welfare of your better part. I must confess, that the account many of you gave of your experiences, was not so satisfactory as I could wish; but I hope you will none of you rest in good desires, or think you are christians, because you have followed after me. I thank you, GOD knows my heart, I thank you for all expressions of your love: But I beseech you to remember, that the kingdom of GOD does not consist in *word*, but in *power*. Keeping company with GOD's people, does not give you a title to the privileges of GOD's children. It may increase, but not extenuate your condemnation, if you are not found in heart, and truly converted to our dear LORD JESUS CHRIST. I am persuaded you will not be offended at this plain dealing. GOD has been pleased to work upon you by my unworthy ministry. I would therefore watch over you for good, and warn you against those snares which await all the true followers of the Lamb of GOD. At my next return, I hope I shall see you are that inwardly, which you would be esteemed outwardly. The searcher of hearts knows I long for your salvation. My dear friends, adieu. Pray for me. Be humble, be strong in the LORD and in the power of his might. A fiery trial awaits you. There is no being a christian without giving up all for CHRIST. We must all have the spirit of martyrdom, though we may not all die martyrs.—That the LORD may keep you by his power unto salvation, and make you more than conquerors through his love, is the hearty prayer of

Your affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CLXXXIX.

To Mr. A—— S——, at Philadelphia.

Dear Mr. S. *Reedy Island, May* 22, 1740.

I Desire that you and your wife would accept of these few farewel lines as a token of my love. My heart's desire

and

and prayer to GOD is, that you both may be ſaved.—Your wife was mourning when I ſaw her laſt. The LORD JESUS prepare her thereby for true, ſolid, and laſting comfort! The more we are humbled, the more will the glorious Emmanuel exalt us; but we muſt wait his time. JESUS is love, and never corrects us but for our own good. I find it is always thus with me. I am a ſtubborn, ungrateful, diſobedient child, and often oblige him to ſtrike me ſeverely; but love, I find, holds the rod, and therefore his rod, as well as his ſtaff comforts me. Farewel; the LORD be with you both!—*John S*—— and all friends ſalute you. We live and walk in love. My tendereſt reſpects await all that truly follow the Lamb. I beſeech you forget not to pray for

Your affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CXC.

To Mr. G—— L——, in London.

Reedy Iſland, May 22, 1740.

"ON *Thurſday* laſt, in the evening, the Rev. Mr. *Whitefield* went on board at *New-Caſtle*, in order to ſail to *Georgia*, after having been on ſhore thirty-three days, and travelled ſome hundreds of miles, and preached fifty-eight times in the provinces of *New-Jerſey*, *New-York*, and *Penſylvania*.—His congregations conſiſted ſometimes of four, ſometimes of five, ſometimes of eight, twelve, fifteen, and once at *Philadelphia*, of *twenty thouſand* people. He had gotten near five hundred pounds ſterling, in money and proviſions, for the Orphan-houſe at *Georgia*. Great and viſible effects followed his preaching, almoſt whereſoever he went, eſpecially in *Philadelphia*. There was never ſuch a general awakening, and concern for the things of GOD known in *America* before. He intended to viſit *New-England* ſoon after his arrival at *Georgia*, and to come by land as far as *Philadelphia*, at the latter end of the year."

The above *Advertiſement* may ſuffice for the preſent, 'till I have an opportunity of ſending you my journal. That will ſhew you wonderful things. I ſuppoſe ere this reaches you, our dear brothers, *S*—— and *G*——, will be arrived: I have

ſent a packet of letters to them, by the way of *Dublin*. I am now waiting for a fair wind, and can ſay the LORD is with me of a truth. Several ſhips are lying by us, and the captains and their companies come to our ſhip to prayers. Sailors weep: It is unknown how many are under conviction. I long to hear what is doing in *England*. The embargoes, I ſuppoſe, prevent your ſending; however my heart is with you. I do not forget you. I hope there is a door opening among the *Allegany* Indians. I have read *M*———'s journal, and have wrote both to him and them. We have been near a week at *Reedy Iſland:* I have preached there five times. The captains and their crews come conſtantly to public worſhip on ſhore, and to private prayer in our ſloop. We have ſome with us that love our dear LORD JESUS in ſincerity. My heart is exceedingly drawn towards *Savannah*; but the LORD'S time is the beſt. The LORD JESUS bleſs you all, and reward you for all kindneſſes ſhewn to his unworthy ſervant, but

Your affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXCI.

To W—— S——, Eſq; in London.

Lewis-Town, (Penſylvania) May 24, 1740.

My dear Friend and Brother,

MY will is much to go to *Georgia*, but my dear LORD JESUS is pleaſed to croſs me. For ever bleſſed be his great and glorious name. Juſt now the LORD hath brought me hither. Your letter pleaſed me. I hope our LORD is now beginning to anſwer my prayers, and that my dear Brother *S*—— is about to know himſelf. You know I have often told you, that you ought to ſuſpect your experiences. You have miſtaken, in my opinion, *preparation*, for converſion itſelf. Your nine years round of duties, were no effects of the new-birth at all. How could they be? when you did not know you was to be born again, before you heard Mr. *C*—— *W*—— expound the ſeventh chapter of the *Romans:* Then, but not till then did you begin to be enlightened, and illumination and converſion are two different things. All my great trials

trials were consequent on this. Not that GOD's way of dealing with me, ought to be a rule for others: But I think your case and mine somewhat parallel.—Those that have been most humbled, I find, always make the most solid, useful christians. It stands with reason: The more a man is emptied of himself, the more room is there made for the spirit of GOD to dwell in him.—Your caution to dear Mr. *H.* was very good. Openness is the best preservative of spiritual friendship. I would behave so, that no one might be afraid to consult me; but if people will not open their hearts, let them not blame me; I cannot speak, where I perceive a shyness, and where I see persons are afraid of me. I am sure they must harbour some ungenerous suspicions or other against me, and how then can there be a harmony of soul. My dear brother, my friend, now I have told you my heart: Be not angry, I am just ready to weep.—Indeed, I am willing to wash your feet, and to acknowledge all favours under GOD that I have received from you. Be stable, be willing to consult others that have trod in the spiritual road before you; do not mistake working *for* life, for *working from life*. Watch unto prayer, and do not be carried away by every wind of doctrine. How could you not see through *L*—— of *German-Town?* But I must not chide, but love. Much I owe you; have patience with me and I will endeavour to pay you. I shall long to see you at *Savannah*. Once more, my dear friend and brother, adieu. My heart is much melted down. GOD continually fills me with himself. O give thanks for, dear Sir,

Your brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXCII.

To the Rev. Mr. J. W.

Honoured Sir, *Cape-Lopen, May* 24, 1740.

I Cannot entertain prejudices against your conduct and principles any longer, without informing you. The more I examine the writings of the most experienced men, and the experiences of the most established christians, the more

I differ from your notion about not committing ſin, and your denying the doctrines of election, and final perſeverance of the ſaints. I dread coming to *England*, unleſs you are reſolved to oppoſe theſe truths with leſs warmth, than when I was there laſt. I dread your coming over to *America*; becauſe the work of GOD is carried on here (and that in a moſt glorious manner) by doctrines quite oppoſite to thoſe you hold. Here are thouſands of GOD's children, who will not be perſuaded out of the privileges purchaſed for them by the blood of JESUS. Here are many worthy experienced miniſters, who would oppoſe your principles to the utmoſt. GOD direct me what to do! Sometimes I think it beſt to ſtay here, where we all think and ſpeak the ſame thing: The work goes on without diviſions, and with more ſucceſs, becauſe all employed in it are of one mind. I write not this, *honoured Sir*, from heat of ſpirit, but out of love. At preſent, I think you are entirely inconſiſtent with yourſelf, and therefore do not blame me, if I do not approve of all that you ſay. GOD himſelf, I find, teaches my friends the doctrine of election. Siſter *H*—— hath lately been convinced of it; and, if I miſtake not, dear and honoured Mr. *W*—— hereafter will be convinced alſo. From my ſoul I wiſh you abundant ſucceſs in the name of the LORD. I long to hear of your being made a ſpiritual father to thouſands. Perhaps I may never ſee you again, 'till we meet in judgment; then, if not before, you will know, that ſovereign, diſtinguiſhing, irreſiſtible grace brought you to heaven. Then will you know, that GOD loved you with an everlaſting love, and therefore with loving-kindneſs did he draw you. Honoured Sir, farewel. My prayers conſtantly attend both you and your labours. I neglect no opportunity of writing. My next journal will acquaint you with new and ſurprizing wonders. The LORD fills me both in body and ſoul. I am ſupported under the proſpect of preſent and impending trials, with an aſſurance of GOD's loving me to the end; yea, even to all eternity. Ere this reaches you, I ſuppoſe you will hear of my intention to marry. I am quite as free as a child: If it be GOD's will, I beſeech him to prevent it. I would not be hindered in my dear LORD's buſineſs for the world. I am now waiting for a fair wind. GOD bleſſes

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the Orphan-houſe. Do not be angry with, but pray for, honoured Sir,

Your unworthy brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXCIII.

To Mr. S——, in Charles-Town.

Dear Sir, *Savannah, June 7, 1740.*

BEFORE I knew you by name, my heart was uncommonly affected towards you. Whenever I ſaw you at church, I enquired concerning you, and to my great but pleaſing ſurprize, when I came to your houſe, found you was the man I was enquiring after. Your letter gives me ſtill hopes, that our dear LORD JESUS is about to awaken you from a carnal ſecurity in which you have long lain. He is now calling you, dear, dear Sir. I beſeech you, by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS our Saviour, take heed that you do not lie down again. If you will be a follower of the Lamb of GOD, you muſt prepare your ſoul for manifold temptations; you muſt become the ſong of the drunkard, and have all manner of evil ſpoken againſt you falſely for CHRIST's ſake: But let none of theſe things move you, dear Sir. Dare, I beſeech you, to be ſingularly good.—Be not aſhamed of your glory.—Learn a leſſon of boldneſs even from the devil's children. How reſolute, how daring are they in their maſter's cauſe? Why ſhould not we be equally courageous in the cauſe of JESUS CHRIST? O Sir, I feel a concern for the welfare of your better part. GOD hath vouchſafed you ſome convictions; do not reſt in them. Catch not too greedily at comfort. Beg of GOD that you may be thoroughly wounded, before you deſire to be made whole; otherwiſe you will go but half way, and be only an unſtable, double-minded man at laſt. GOD forbid that dear Mr. *S*—— ſhould ever ſettle in ſuch a dangerous ſtate! Ere long I hope to ſee you in *Charles-Town*, and then I ſhall have an opportunity of enquiring more particularly into the ſtate of your ſoul. I came home but two days ago, and therefore could not anſwer your letter before. If I can be ſerviceable to you in any reſpect, be pleaſed to command, dear Sir,

Your aſſured friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CXCIV.

To Mr. J—— H——, in London.

My dear, dear Brother, *Savannah, June 7, 1740.*

WITH great comfort I received your long wiſhed-for letter. It warmed my heart, and knit my ſoul to you much more than ever. Whenever I ſee the child-like ſimplicity and love of JESUS, it quite melts me down. Let all former miſunderſtandings between me and your friends be entirely forgotten. I always pitied your parents, and moſt earneſtly prayed for them and you. Bleſſed be GOD that you are come home. You are now, I believe, as I always did believe, in your proper ſtation. May GOD give you a ſettled habit of devotion, and ſo fill you with his ſpirit, that whilſt you are working for GOD on earth, you may be like thoſe bleſſed angels, who, though miniſtring to us, yet do always behold the face of our Father who is in heaven. My dear brother, let the love of JESUS conſtrain you to love him with all your ſoul. A ſenſe of his divine love now melts down my heart, and draws tears from my eyes. O what wonderful things is GOD doing in *America! Savannah* alſo, *my dear Savannah*, eſpecially my little orphans, now begin to feel the love of JESUS CHRIST. I arrived here but about two days ago, in an hour quite unexpected by my friends. How did we weep over one another for joy! Perhaps I may never feel the like again, till I meet with the ſons of GOD in glory: But oh what a ſcene was to be ſeen laſt night in the congregation! How did the ſtately ſteps of our glorious Emmanuel appear! His glory ſhone with exceeding brightneſs. The power ſeemed to be coming on all the day. My ſoul has been much carried out in behalf of this place, and now the LORD is about to anſwer my prayer. *T—— D——* was yeſterday in a glorious agony. I prayed with three of the girls before I went to church, and their hearts were ready to break: I prayed alſo, with ſtrong cryings and tears, with my other dear friends, and GOD was much with us then; but when we came to church, oh what was to be ſeen, and heard, and felt there! The power of the LORD came as it were upon all. Moſt of

the children, both boys and girls, cried bitterly, and moſt of the congregation were drowned in tears, and mourned as a woman mourneth for her firſt-born. Expence of ſpirits made my body weak, but my ſoul ſtill wreſtled earneſtly with GOD. When I came home, I lay upon my bed; but ſeeing the children and people come home crying, I went to prayer again, and a greater power than ever ſtill attended it. O how was my ſoul carried out, and how did the Holy Ghoſt fill the room! At laſt I thought proper to diſmiſs them; but it would have charmed your heart to hear the little ones in different parts of the houſe praying, and begging of JESUS to take full poſſeſſion of their hearts. The ſame power continues to-day: For near two hours, four or five of the girls have been before the LORD weeping moſt bitterly, and under ſuch agonies, as gives me hope our LORD will ſoon ſend them deliverance. I have not yet talked with the boys, who alſo have been under great concern, and one eſpecially in great agonies. I believe two or three will be truly gracious. I have brought with me a Latin maſter, and on *Monday* laid a foundation in the name of our dear JESUS for an *univerſity* in *Georgia*. GOD bleſſes me (O free and ſovereign grace) in every thing I undertake. Our Orphan-houſe comes under better regulations every day, and I am perſuaded, in the end, will produce ſome true followers of JESUS CHRIST. I am now looking for freſh attacks from the enemy, after ſuch inroads. He has been buſy ſince my departure, but the LORD hath vouchſafed to rebuke and diſappoint him. My dear brother, may the LORD be with you! For CHRIST's ſake deſire dear Brother *W*—— to avoid diſputing with me. I think I had rather die, than to ſee a diviſion between us; and yet, how can we walk together, if we oppoſe each other? Adieu. Dear *James*, with much tenderneſs I ſubſcribe myſelf

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXCV.

To T—— T——, Esq; in London.

My dear Friend and Brother, *Savannah, June 7, 1740.*

I Wrote to you very lately; but your kind letter is now before me, and I cannot forbear anſwering it: Bleſſed be GOD, that you ſtill look upon me as your friend. May the friend of all, unite us in the beſt bonds, and bring us to himſelf at laſt! I long to ſee the ſon of man coming in the clouds of heaven. I have now ſuch large incomes from above, and ſuch precious communications from our dear LORD JESUS, that my body ſometimes can ſcarcely ſuſtain them. Our dear Brother *H——*'s letter (which I deſire you may ſee) will ſhew you what a work is begun at *Savannah.* I am in great hopes, that ſix or ſeven boys and girls are really coming to JESUS CHRIST. Dear Brother *H——n* ſojourns with us. I love him, and all the brethren, in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I am now looking for ſome ſtrong attacks from ſatan. The LORD comforts me on every ſide, and lets me ſee my deſire in the ſalvation of many ſouls. O, dear Mr. *T——*, forget not

Your weak unworthy friend and brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXCVI.

To Mr. M———.

Dear Mr. M—— *Savannah, June 11, 1740.*

I Am not uneaſy, but rather joyful, to find GOD lets you ſee more and more into the miſery of your depraved nature. I pray GOD, theſe convictions may ſtill increaſe, and that you may not fall ſhort of a ſaving union with JESUS CHRIST. I am concerned to find you have loſt a ſenſe of your firſt love. —Take heed, my dear friend, and wreſtle with your dear LORD, till he lets you ſee the root of bitterneſs that muſt certainly be in ſome corner of your heart. Perhaps you have not renounced the world and your own righteouſneſs, and then no wonder our LORD doth not manifeſt himſelf to your ſoul.

Sometimes,

Sometimes, indeed, GOD withdraws on purpoſe to wean us from ſenſible devotion, and to take us off from ſeeking any ſelf-complacence in our duties. If this be the caſe of you and your friends, you are patiently to tarry the LORD's leiſure, and to continue ſtriving with all your might till he is pleaſed to lift up the light of his bleſſed countenance upon you. You muſt ſeek JESUS though it be ſorrowing, and then, after three days, you will find him; for the LORD will not always be chiding, neither keepeth he his anger for ever. That GOD may daily renew you in the ſpirit of your mind, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your aſſured friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CXCVII.

To Mr. W—— W——, in London.

Dear W—— *Savannah, June* 11, 1740.

I Am ſorry to hear, that you and your maſters cannot agree; but this I know, ſuppoſing the caſe to be as you repreſent it, you muſt notwithſtanding "be obedient, not only to the good and gentle, but alſo to the froward."—Rough uſage will do you good, if you are ſincere; GOD ſees the pride and ſtubbornneſs of your heart, and therefore ſends you theſe trials to beat it down: I find the benefit of croſſes. What ſhould I do without them? Dear brother *S*——— would write to you, I believe, but is much engaged.—We love one another in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. O, dear *W.* keep cloſe to GOD, and ſee you are that inwardly, which you would be eſteemed outwardly.—Reſt in nothing ſhort of a ſound and thorough converſion. That GOD may bleſs you, and all the brethren, with all ſpiritual bleſſings, is the hearty prayer of

Your aſſured friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CXCVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. J—— B——, at New-York.

Reverend and dear Brother, *Savannah, June* 13, 1740.

I Have just been reading the three letters you sent some time ago to our dear brother *N*——, and find my heart much inclined to write you a line. Whatever others may do, yet I am far from judging you on account of GOD's dealings with your soul. I rather rejoice in them, having myself been blessed with many experiences of the like nature. But, my dear brother, if GOD works upon us in an extraordinary manner, we must prepare for temptation, even from our christian brethren.

Most judge of others from what has passed within themselves; and many of the dear children of GOD are too apt to confine GOD to this or that particular way of acting; whereas he is a sovereign agent: his sacred spirit bloweth when, and where, and how it listeth; and when an uncommon work is to be done, no doubt he will work upon his chosen instruments in an uncommon manner. What the event of the present general awakening will be, I know not. I desire to follow my dear LORD blindfold, whithersoever he is pleased to lead me; and to do just so much, and no more, as his providence points out to me. Wonderful things have been done ever since my arrival at *Savannah:* such an awakening among little children, I never saw before. Our dear brother *N*——'s letter will acquaint you with particulars. O my dear brother, how ought such manifestations of GOD's glory, to quicken our souls, and excite us to lay out ourselves more and more in the service of the best of Masters, JESUS CHRIST! Every day he fills me with himself, and sometimes brings me even upon the confines of eternity. Methinks I often stand upon *Mount Pisgah*, and take a view of the heavenly *Canaan*, and then long to be gathered to my people: but, my dear brother, both you and I must suffer, and that great things, before we enter into glory. My work is scarce begun; my trials are yet to come. What is a little scourge of the tongue? What is a thrusting out of the synagogues? The time of temptation will be, when we are thrust into an in-

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ner prison, and feel the iron entering even into our souls. Then, perhaps, even GOD's people may be permitted to forsake us for a while, and none but the LORD JESUS to stand by us. "But if thou, O dearest Redeemer! wilt strengthen me in the inner man, let enemies plunge me into a fiery furnace, or throw me into a den of lions." My dear brother, my heart is enlarged towards you: though I never saw, yet I love you most tenderly. How does dear brother *D——?* Does he yet walk in the light of GOD's countenance? Pray salute him lovingly in my name. In the fall, I hope to see you in *Long Island*, and to be somewhat filled with your company. In the mean while, let us all keep a close walk with JESUS; and be pleased, in an especial manner, to remember

Your unworthy, though affectionate brother,
fellow-labourer, and servant in our common LORD,
G. W.

LETTER CXCIX.

To the Rev. Mr. J. W.

Savannah, June 25, 1740.

My honoured Friend and Brother,

I Thank you for, and heartily say *amen* to all the petitions you have put up in my behalf. I want to be as my Master would have me; I mean, meek and lowly in heart. Dear Sir, bear with me a little longer; pray for me with great earnestness; and who knows but my GOD may give me to abhor myself in dust and ashes! He that hath given us his Son, will he not with him freely give us all things? For CHRIST's sake, if possible, dear Sir, never speak against election in your sermons: no one can say that I ever mentioned it in public discourses, whatever my private sentiments may be. For CHRIST's sake, let us not be divided amongst ourselves: nothing will so much prevent a division as your being silent on this head. I should have rejoiced at the sight of your Journal. I long to sing a hymn of praise for what GOD has done for your soul. I am glad to hear that you speak up for an attendance on the means of grace, and do not encourage persons who run (I am persuaded) before they are called. The work of GOD will suffer much by such imprudence. I trust you will

still

ſtill perſiſt in field-preaching. Others are ſtrangers to our call. I know infinite good hath been done by it already, and greater good will yet be done thereby every day: but we muſt be judged of our brethren. May GOD bleſs you more and more every day, and cauſe you to triumph in every place. Next *Monday*, GOD willing, I go to *Charles-Town*. My family is well regulated; but I want ſome more gracious aſſiſtants. I have near an hundred and thirty to maintain daily, without any fund. The LORD gives me a full undiſturbed confidence in his power and goodneſs. Dear Sir, adieu. I can write no more; my heart is full. I want to be a little child. O continue to pray for

Your moſt unworthy, but affectionate brother and ſervant in our dear LORD JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CC.

To Mr. J—— H——.

Deareſt J—— *Savannah, June* 25, 1740.

EVERY letter you write, knits my heart more and more to you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. Your laſt I received on *Saturday*. GOD had been preparing me for it, by a week's intimation upon my heart, and by an inexpreſſible agony in my ſoul juſt before it came to hand. Bleſſed be GOD that our friends preach up poverty of ſpirit, for that is the only foundation whereon to build ſolid abiding comfort. The ſtony ground received the word with joy; but how did thoſe hearers ſtand in a day of temptation? They fell away; for it is very poſſible that the heart may have much joy floating on the top of it, and yet be as hard as the nether millſtone. Hence it is that ſo many, who boaſt of reſt in their flaſhes of joy, are ſelf-willed, impatient of reproof, deſpiſers of others in a mourning ſtate, and wiſe in their own conceits: whereas the believer, that hath been with his LORD in the wilderneſs, and has a truly broken and contrite heart, though his joy may not be ſo extravagant, yet it is ſubſtantial. Such a ſoul hangs upon GOD; thinks before he ſpeaks; and is continually hearkening for what the LORD will ſay to him, by the ſmall ſtill voice of his ſpirit. This is the ſtate I want all our friends to arrive at.

I can-

I cannot see how they can, with assurance, talk of their enjoying solid fellowship with the Father, and his dear Son CHRIST JESUS. I shall not be surprized if many, who seemingly began in the spirit, do end in the flesh, and turn persecutors of the doctrines and disciples of JESUS CHRIST. How can they possibly stand, who never felt themselves condemned criminals? who were never truly burthened with a sense not only of their actual, but original sin, especially that damning sin of unbelief? who were never brought to see and heartily confess, that after they had done all, GOD might, notwithstanding, deny them mercy; and that it is owing merely to his sovereign love in CHRIST JESUS our LORD, that they can have any hopes of being delivered from the wrath to come? It is for preaching in this manner that I like Mess. *T——s.* They wound deep before they heal; they know that there is no promise made but to him that believeth; and therefore they are careful not to comfort over much those that are convicted. I fear I have been too incautious in this respect, and have often given comfort too soon. The LORD pardon me for what is past, and teach me more rightly to divide the word of truth for the future. Dearest *J——*, pardon this freedom; I am constrained to write in this manner. I thank you most heartily for your historical letter. Fail not writing to me often. Dearest *J—*, help me by your prayers: for CHRIST's sake help me. Our LORD is yet with us. I hear different accounts of things; but I pray for all, and suspend my judgment till you see

Your affectionate brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCI.

To Mrs. E—— C——.

My dear Sister, *Savannah, June* 25, 1740.

YOUR letter afforded me much inward pleasure. Surely it bespeaks the writer not to be far from the kingdom of GOD. You was then waiting for our LORD's salvation: ere now, I trust, CHRIST hath manifested his glory, filled you with his blessed spirit, and thereby sealed you to the day of redemption. 'Tis good to be long in an humbled state: it is the best preparation for solid, lasting comfort. Blessed are

they that mourn moſt, for they ſhall be the moſt comforted: not that we are violently to keep ourſelves in ſuch a ſtate; but when GOD's hand lies heavy upon us, we are patiently to tarry the LORD's leiſure, till he reveals himſelf to our ſouls. I was a mourner a long while; but, glory be to GOD! I have for ſome years been almoſt continually comforted; at leaſt kept from doubting of my intereſt in JESUS CHRIST. I can with an humble boldneſs cry out, "My LORD and my GOD!" He daily manifeſts himſelf to my ſoul, and cauſes me to feel my dependance on his free grace and ſovereign love. This is the kingdom of GOD within us. O, my dear ſiſter, what would I give, were all the world partakers of this unſpeakable gift! I long, I burn with an ardent zeal after the ſalvation of my dear brethren, who are dead in treſpaſſes and ſins. Poor ſouls! Why am I taken, and they left? O the ſovereign, free, unmerited, diſtinguiſhing love of my and your JESUS! My dear ſiſter, let us love him, let us obey him; let us ſuffer for him with a chearful heart! His love will ſweeten every cup, though never ſo bitter. Let us pledge him willingly, and continue faithful even unto death. A ſcene of ſufferings lies before us. Who knows but we may wade to our Saviour through a ſea of blood? I expect (O pray that I may be ſtrengthened if called to it) to die for his great name's ſake. 'Twill be ſweet to wear a martyr's crown. Dear Madam, adieu. I remember GOD's goodneſs to us at *Broad-Oaks*. I pray for you and yours. I truſt your daughters keep cloſe to JESUS. Salute them kindly in my name. Read my Journal, and give hearty thanks for

Your unworthy brother and ſervant in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCII.

To the Rev. Mr. S———, in London.

Rev. and dear Sir, *Savannah, June* 26, 1740.

AND is one of the prieſts alſo obedient to the word? Bleſſed be GOD, the Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, who hath tranſlated you from darkneſs to light; from the power of Satan to the ſervice of the ever-living GOD. Now know I, that our glorious *Emmanuel* has not commanded

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us to pray in vain. Surely we shall never taste of death, till we see our dear LORD's kingdom coming with greater power. He seems to be thrusting out more labourers into his harvest. Glory be to his free grace that you are one of the happy number. O dear Sir, rejoice and be exceeding glad; and let the love of JESUS constrain you to go out into the highways and hedges to compel poor sinners to come in. Some (even that are true lovers of the Lamb) may say "this is not proceeding with a zeal according to knowledge:" but I am persuaded, when the power of religion revives, the gospel must be propagated in the same manner as it was first established, "*itinerant preaching.*" Go on, dear Sir, go on, and follow your glorious Master without the camp, bearing his sacred reproach. Never fear the scourge of the tongue, or the threatnings that are daily breathed out against the LORD, and against his CHRIST. Suffer we must, I believe, and that great things. Our LORD, by his providence, begins to shew it. Ere long, perhaps, we may sing in a prison, and have our feet set fast in the stocks. But faith in JESUS turns a prison into a palace, and makes a bed of flames become a bed of down. Let us be faithful to-day, and our LORD will support us to-morrow. O dear Sir, though I know you not, yet my heart is enlarged towards you, and I make mention of your name in my prayers. I pray GOD to give you strength to bear the heat and burden of every day, and to enable you to preach with such wisdom, that all your adversaries may not be able to gainsay or resist. Blessed be his holy name, I drink deep of his love every moment. A greater power than ever attends my poor labours; and several of my own household, both boys and girls, I really believe, are coming savingly to JESUS CHRIST. I am now about to go to *Charles-Town*; a work of GOD is begun there. Who knows but I may see my dear brother *S*——— in *America?* But future things belong to GOD; to his grace and love I commend you. Keep close to your dear JESUS, and pray that a child-like, humble spirit, may be given to

Your unworthy brother and fellow-labourer

G. W.

LETTER CCIII.

To Wm. S——, Esq; in London.

My dear Brother S——, *Savannah, June 26, 1740.*

I Sent you a packet of letters from *Charles-Town*, the middle of this month. Since that time, I have received many agreeable letters from *England*; but find from *Blendon letters* that Miſs *E—— D——* is in a ſeeking ſtate only. Surely that will not do; I would have one that is full of faith and the Holy Ghoſt. Juſt now I have been weeping, and much carried out in prayer before the LORD. My poor family gives me more concern than every thing elſe put together. I want a *gracious woman* that is dead to every thing but JESUS, and is qualified to govern children, and direct perſons of her own ſex. Such a one would help, and not retard me in my dear LORD's work. I wait upon the LORD every moment; I hang upon my JESUS: and he is ſo infinitely condeſcending, that he daily grants me freſh tokens of his love, and aſſures me that he will not permit me to fall by the hands of a woman. I am almoſt tempted to wiſh I had never undertook the orphan-houſe. At other times, I am willing to contrive matters ſo that I may not marry: but I am always checked; and looking back upon the workings of my heart in this affair, I am more and more convinced that it is of GOD; and therefore know he will order affairs for me, as will beſt promote his own glory. So that my dear LORD's honour does not ſuffer, I care not what trouble in the fleſh I undergo. His glory, to the beſt of my knowledge, is my only aim, in my thoughts, words, and actions. My deareſt brother, adieu. By this time, I truſt, you are near *England*. Dear brother *S——* goes with me to *Charles-Town*. Brother *B——* keeps houſe in my abſence. Take heed that the people you bring believe on JESUS. Expect to hear ſhortly again from

Your affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCIV.

To Mr. W—— D——.

My dear Brother, *Savannah, June* 28, 1740.

I Thank you for your kind letters and friendly cautions; and truſt ſhall always reckon thoſe my choiceſt friends, who, in ſimplicity and meekneſs, tell me the corruptions of my heart. It is that faithfulneſs which hath endeared *J*—— *S*—— to me. I think I never was obliged to any one ſo much before: for that reaſon alſo I find my heart knit to you. O my dear brother, ſtill continue faithful to my ſoul: do not hate me in your heart; in any wiſe reprove me. Exhort all my dear brethren to forgive my paſt (I fear) too imperious carriage; and let them pray that I may know myſelf to be what I really am, leſs than the leaſt of them all. I have abundant reaſon to bleſs GOD for ſending me abroad. I cannot ſay I have improved my retirement as I ought; but I can ſay it hath been highly beneficial to my ſoul. I have a garden near at hand, where I go particularly to meet and talk with my GOD, at the cool of every day. I often ſit in ſilence, offering my ſoul as ſo much clay, to be ſtamped juſt as my heavenly potter pleaſes: and whilſt I am muſing, I am often filled as it were with the fulneſs of GOD. I am frequently at *Calvary*, and frequently on *Mount Tabor*; but always aſſured of my LORD's everlaſting love. O continue to pray for me, that I may know myſelf even as I am known. I want to have a proper mixture of the lion and the lamb, of the ſerpent and the dove. I do not deſpair of attaining it. JESUS is love; JESUS willeth my perfection; JESUS hath died for me; JESUS can deny me nothing. He hath given me himſelf; will he not then freely give me all things beſides? I wait for thy compleat ſalvation, O LORD! My dear brother, my heart is now enlarged. Your prayer is anſwered. The whole Godhead now fills my ſoul. O grace, grace! O Jeſu, Jeſu! was ever love like thine! LORD, I abhor myſelf in duſt and aſhes. O that I could praiſe thee! that I could love thee as I ought! My dear brother, I hear you have been zealous for the LORD your GOD ſince my departure. You have done well: you never can be zealous for a better maſter: but why

silent? why withdrawn? Did you go before you was called or qualified? If so, you have done right: but I suspend my judgment; for I find there is no judging at a distance. I only pray GOD that you may always feel yourself a very poor sinner, and find refuge in the wounds and blood of the Lamb. I rejoice to hear the work of GOD goes on, and heartily wish you may not be divided among yourselves. Our dear LORD is with us here: I only want a few more gracious, solid assistants. The LORD will send them in his due time to

Your affectionate brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCV.

To J—— B———.

Good Hope, (South-Carolina) July 2, 1740.

My dear Brother B———,

IS it true, that one night whilst you was expounding, you told your hearers, from your own experience, that "they could not go on without throwing aside the means of grace?" or words to that purpose? If so, I pity you; for you are not only missled yourself, but are also misguiding others. But this is no more than I expected. I think you begun to teach too soon, and before you had a commission given you from above. Brother *J*—— was of the same opinion, before I left *England*. For that reason, I would not take you to *Georgia*. Blessed be GOD, I have no such over-forward spirits there. My dear *B*——, I write in love. For CHRIST's sake try your spirit: I fear you was never yet truly humbled. I know you have had joy; but I always thought it was joy floating on the surface of an unmortified heart. From such a joy, good LORD deliver us! O that you had been in the wilderness a little longer! then you might have been an experienced teacher; but I fear you are now only a novice. May the LORD keep you from falling into the condemnation of the devil. I write not this to damp, but to regulate your spirit; if you are humble, you will take it kind. GOD knows, I wish all the LORD's servants were prophets; but I would not have my Master's work suffer by a too heady way of proceeding. Why should you dishonour him by acting above your sphere; whereas

whereas you might honour him by acting in it. Every one is not fit to be a public expounder. To build up awakened sinners in private, is what is more wanted at present than young unexperienced preachers. But I have done; I fear I have offended my brother: forgive me this wrong. As GOD was pleased first to work upon you by my ministry, you must always expect to be watched over by

Your affectionate friend, brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCVI.

Dear Mr. R———, Charles-Town, July 11, 1740.

YOUR letter much rejoiced me. O that you may still follow on, till you truly know the LORD! I shall be glad to have you for a scribe, if you are well instructed in the things which belong to the kingdom of heaven. Keep close, my dear friend, keep close to the dear Mr. *T———s:* under GOD, they will build you up in your most holy faith. It gladdens my heart to hear of their success in the LORD. The LORD increase them more and more, and multiply the number of their spiritual children! I suppose brother *G———'s* letter informed you what a speedy passage the LORD gave us, and how we were received at *Georgia*. Surely I shall never see the like again, till I meet the sons of GOD in glory. Praise the LORD, O my soul! my dear friend, help me to praise the LORD. I have been here above a week. The LORD hath been pleased to work on many hearts. On *Sunday* the *commissary* denied me the sacrament; but my dear Master fed me, notwithstanding, with the bread which cometh down from heaven. Persecution seems to be coming on more and more. My dear friend, see that you are rooted and grounded in love and faith; or how will you stand fast in a dying hour? With difficulty I write this before morning service. I preach generally, in town or country, twice a-day. The heat is great; but the LORD enables me to bear the burden of it. Next month, GOD willing, I go to *New-England*, and hope to see *Philadelphia* in *November*. On *Tuesday* next I am cited to appear before the commissary and his court in a judicial way: the event I leave to my dear LORD JESUS. O dear

Mr. *R*——, let not the croſs keep you from JESUS. If we ſuffer, we ſhall reign with him. Salute your honoured mother in my name, and all that love our dear LORD in ſincerity, from, dear Mr. *R*———,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCVII.

To Mr. J—— R——.

Dear J——, *Charles-Town, July* 15, 1740.

MAY you anſwer your name, be freely gracious, and filled with as much love as he was, who leaned on the ſacred boſom of our dear Redeemer. I believe GOD has begun; if ſo, GOD will carry on the good work in your heart. It is the LORD's doing. Not unto me, not unto me; but to free, rich, diſtinguiſhing, ſovereign grace, be all the glory! The wearing off, or forgetting your convictions formerly, ought to make you more jealous of yourſelf now. The more you ſee the enmity of the heart, the better: you cannot then avoid abhorring yourſelf in duſt and aſhes. I rejoice you have been at *Neſhamini*. I can ſay of Mr. *T*—— and their brethren, as *David* did of *Goliah*'s ſword, "None like them." I am glad you and my friend *R*—— are acquainted. O ſee that you keep one another warm, and be zealous for the LORD your GOD. I wonder not at your maſter's inſinuations. Indeed, dear *J*——, you muſt be tried thoroughly, if you would approve yourſelf to the glorious *Emmanuel*. Exhort all to die for him, rather than deny him in any wiſe. I find my ſuffering time at hand: but my dear LORD comforts me with his gracious and refreſhing preſence. A good work is carrying on here: let my dear friends help it forwards by their prayers. My love to all at the ſociety; and accept of the ſame from

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCVIII.

To Mr. B——, in Pensylvania.

My dear Brother, *Charles-Town, July* 18, 1740.

PRAISE the LORD, O my soul! Our glorious *Emmanuel* seems to have girt his sword upon his thigh, and to be riding on from conquering to conquer. He gets himself the victory in *Philadelphia*. He is getting himself the victory in *Charles-Town* also. Indeed a glorious work is begun, and carrying on here. Many souls are awakened to a sense of the divine life.——The alteration in the people since I came here at first, is surprizing. I preach twice a day, generally, either in town or in the villages around. The commissary shoots out his arrows, even bitter words. He hath denied me the sacrament, and cited me to appear before him and his court; I was obliged to appeal home. O my dear brother, pray that I may be humble and of a child-like spirit. Every day GOD shews me fresh instances of his love. Here are some faithful ministers amongst the baptists. One of them, Mr. *C*——, has wrote to you; pray answer him. Some time next month I hope to be at *New England*, and to return to you according to promise. Be pleased to salute the brethren in my name. Indeed I honour and love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. O that I was worthy of your acquaintance! But I am not. All that I can say is, that I will endeavour to approve myself

Your affectionate friend, brother,
and servant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCIX.

To Mr. I. R——.

My Dear Friend, *Charles-Town, July* 18, 1740.

I Thank you for going with friend *E*—— and *B*—— to *Nazareth*. May GOD bless you, and cause great good to come to that place! GOD seems to be carrying on as great a work in *Charles-Town*, comparatively speaking, as in *Philadel-*

phia. Surely our LORD intends to ſet the world in a flame. O that the holy fire of his divine love was kindled in every heart! Be pleaſed to read what I have ſent to Mr. *N*———. If you pleaſe you may print that extract, which I ſent from my journal: GOD willing, I hope to be at *New England* by the beginning of *September*, and to be refreſhed with your and my dear friend's letters. Indeed, I love you all in the bowels of my dear LORD JESUS. Do not let us forſake him. Let us not be aſhamed of him, though we live in a crooked and perverſe generation. I thank my dear friends for their zeal in building a houſe; * but deſire it may not have any particular name, or be put to any particular uſe, till my return to *Philadelphia.* I wiſh them good luck in the name of the LORD. Laſt night I appeared a third time in a public court; but they not accepting my *Recuſatio judicis*, I appealed home; ſo that now I have free liberty to embark when providence pleaſeth. O my dear friend, think of a bleeding, dying LORD. Keep cloſe to him, and exhort all friends to pray and give thanks for

Your aſſured friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCX.

To Mr. G—— L———.

Dear Brother L———, Charles-Town, July 18, 1740.

GOD will work, and who ſhall hinder? The ſacrament hath been refuſed to me, and I have appeared thrice in open court, before the commiſſary and ſome of his clergy; but our LORD rides on, from conquering to conquer. Many, I believe, are really pricked to the heart. The commiſſary's detaining me here, has much tended to the furtherance of the goſpel. I put in my exceptions againſt his ſitting as my judge, and they were repelled; ſo that I have appealed home, and all other proceedings here are ſtopped. By this means I ſhall have liberty to preach the goſpel without further interruption, and my call to *England* will be more clear. The encloſed paper will ſhew you what is doing in *Philadelphia.* Private letters received from thence laſt night and this morning, have much refreſhed my heart. Many ſouls are flocking to the LORD

* This is now the college at *Philadelphia.*

LORD JESUS. I need not exhort you to praiſe the LORD. You may advertiſe what paragraphs you think proper, only add that *Philadelphia* people are building a houſe for me to preach in, 106 feet long and 74 feet wide. The LORD is bringing mighty things to paſs. I am ſurprizingly ſtrengthened to bear the heat and burden of every day. My dear LORD never leaves nor forſakes me, but works by my unworthy miniſtry more and more. O that I was humble! O that I was a little, little child! I know not how ſoon I may be called to *England*. The inhabitants here are wondrous kind. They attend morning and evening moſt chearfully on my preaching. We often ſee the ſtately ſteps of our dear LORD in his ſanctuary. I am more than happy. I am amazed at the divine goodneſs. LORD, I abhor myſelf in duſt and aſhes! See the wonders of the LORD; help us to praiſe him. Excuſe me to all my dear friends. For this fortnight paſt I have not wrote a word of my journal. My ſermons, &c. are bought off exceedingly, northward. O pray that an humble child-like ſpirit may be given to

Ever yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXI.

To the Reverend Mr. D——.

My dear Brother D——, *Savannah, Auguſt* 15, 1740.

OUR dear LORD (after being pleaſed to bring me low by bodily ſickneſs) now gives me liberty to write to you. Whilſt I am writing, I find my heart united with yours. I hope we have both drank into the ſame ſpirit, and are both inſtances of the ſame ſovereign, diſtinguiſhing, everlaſting love. O let us extol it! O let us improve daily! And ſince GOD ſees fit that we ſhall not die, but live, let us lay ourſelves out to declare the works of the LORD. I am aſhamed of my paſt unfruitfulneſs. Had others received the ſtock, that hath been intruſted to me, how would they have improved it? Indeed I am an unprofitable ſervant. In the righteouſneſs of JESUS my LORD, is my only refuge. Well may GOD afflict me; I richly deſerve it; and when he brings me low, nothing grieves me ſo much, as to think that I ſhould

ſhould be ſo froward as to oblige the GOD of love to ſtrike me with his rod. But oh the goodneſs of the LORD! His rod, as well as ſtaff, do comfort and build up my ſoul. I would not but be tried for ten thouſand worlds. Bleſſed be GOD, I am enabled to claſp the croſs, and deſire to glory in nothing more. Dear brother, help me with your prayers. Our victorious JESUS makes his power to be known; many have I ſeen ſtruck quite down by the power of the word. The holy Ghoſt hath often come like a mighty ruſhing wind. Satan has deſired to ſift us as wheat. But our LORD ſtill ſhews me, that the orphan-houſe will go on and flouriſh. It is often a great weight upon my ſoul; but through your and my dear friends prayers, the LORD I am perſuaded will ſtill ſupport it.

Yours eternally in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCXII.

To Mr. N——, in New York.

My dear Brother, *Savannah, Aug.* 15, 1740.

YOUR letter rejoiced my heart. May our dear LORD's kingdom be advanced more and more every day! O that I may meet you at *New-England!* Bleſſed be GOD that Mr. *M*—— is yet alive. Salute him from me; I hope to ſee him before I die, and ſo be taught the way of GOD more perfectly. I thank you for your kind hints; I have always paid great deference to dear Mr. *N*——'s judgment: indeed I love him in the bowels of JESUS. GOD has been pleaſed to bring me low, for ſome time, by inward weakneſs, and faintneſs of ſpirits. The firſt ſtrength that is given me to write, I make uſe of in writing to you. The LORD is purging me, that I may bring forth more fruit. I long to die, not that I may be rid of croſſes, but that I may be with CHRIST. He draws me more and more to him every day. I have had many cloſe domeſtic trials of late. But theſe words, "David ſtrengthened himſelf in the LORD his GOD," came with ſweet power to my ſoul. I find, the nearer I come to CHRIST, the cloſer my trials are. I have been ſometimes through weakneſs kept from preaching; but when I have ſpoken, the word

has

has come with power. I have reaſon to think, that three perſons who came to ſee the orphan-houſe, have been effectually called by our LORD JESUS. I have now ſome *Carolina* viſitors in my houſe; two of them, I believe, are coming truly to JESUS.—The word runs like lightning in *Charles-Town*. A ſerious lively Baptiſt miniſter, named *Tilly*, is here alſo; he has preached often for me, and laſt *Sunday* received the ſacrament in our way.—O bigotry, thou art tumbling down a-pace! Bleſſed be GOD.—Next week, GOD willing, I embark for *Charles-Town*, ſhall ſtay there a few days, and from thence purpoſe going to *New-England*. GOD wonderfully provides for my orphans.—I am kept from every degree of doubting; nay, the LORD fills me daily with a full aſſurance of faith. He chaſtens and corrects me, but it is all in love. O help me to praiſe him, and thereby add to the obligations already laid on, dear Mr. *N*———,

Ever yours,
G. W.

LETTER CCXIII.

To Mrs. L———.

Honoured Mother, *Charles-Town*, *Aug.* 22, 1740.

ALTHOUGH I had not the pleaſure of receiving one line, either from your dear ſelf, or from any other of my beloved friends; yet my heart was rejoiced juſt now by a ſailor, who told me, that he ſaw and converſed with you the twenty-ninth of *May* laſt. I thank you for the ſalutation ſent to me by him. Indeed I thank you from my very heart: for I feel myſelf unworthy of your notice. Every day I love and honour you more and more; and when you come to judgment, GOD will ſhew you how many tears I have ſhed in ſecret for you and my dear ſiſter. O let them not be in vain! *Honoured Mother*, fly to JESUS.—Behold, with open arms, yonder he ſtands, ready to embrace you, if you feel your miſery, and are willing to come to him to find reſt. May the great GOD, who only can govern the wills and affections of ſinful men, make you willing in the day of his power! Yeſterday GOD brought me hither again. In a few days, I hope to embark for *New-England*; thence, GOD willing, you may expect

expect another letter. For near six weeks past I have been under great weakness of body; but notwithstanding have been enabled sometimes to preach with great power. I am now somewhat better, but, without a miracle, cannot think of being long below. Indeed, *honoured Mother*, I every day long to be dissolved and to be with CHRIST. Pray tell Mr. *W*——, that Mr. *H*——, and *I*—— *B*——, with one or two more of their relations, I believe, are effectually called of GOD. We had much power at *Savannah*. GOD hath sent me some family trials; but all things are working for good. I am, honoured Mother,

Your ever dutiful son,

G. W.

LETTER CCXIV.

To the Reverend Mr. J—— W——.

Dear and Honoured Sir, *Charles-Town, Aug.* 25, 1740.

LAST night I had the pleasure of receiving an extract of your journal.—This morning I took a walk and read it. I pray GOD to give it his blessing. Many things I trust will prove beneficial, especially the account of yourself. Only, give me leave with all humility to exhort you not to be strenuous in opposing the doctrines of *election* and *final perseverance*, when, by your own confession, "you have not the witness of the spirit within yourself," and consequently are not a proper judge. I remember dear brother *E*—— told me one day, that "he was convinced of the perseverance of the saints." I told him, you was not. He replied, but he will be convinced when he hath got the spirit himself. I am assured, GOD has now for some years given me this living witness in my soul. I cannot say, I have since indulged any doubts (at least for no considerable time) about the forgiveness of my sins; nay, I can scarce say, that I ever doubted at all. When I have been nearest death, my evidences have been the clearest. I can say, I have been on the borders of *Canaan*, and do every day, nay, almost every moment, long for the appearing of our LORD JESUS CHRIST; not to evade sufferings, but with a single desire to see his blessed face. I feel his blessed spirit daily filling my soul and body, as plain as I feel the air

which

which I breathe, or the food I eat.—Perhaps the doctrines of election and of final perseverance hath been abused, (and what doctrine has not,) but notwithstanding, it is children's bread, and ought not in my opinion to be with-held from them, supposing it is always mentioned with proper cautions against the abuse. *Dear* and *Honoured Sir*, I write not this to enter into disputation. I hope, at this time, I feel something of the meekness and gentleness of CHRIST. I cannot bear the thoughts of opposing you: but how can I avoid it, if you go about (as your brother *C*—— once said) to drive *John Calvin* out of *Bristol*. Alas, I never read any thing that *Calvin* wrote; my doctrines I had from CHRIST and his apostles; I was taught them of GOD; and as GOD was pleased to send me out first, and to enlighten me first, so I think he still continues to do it. My business seems to be chiefly in planting; if GOD send you to water, I praise his name.—I wish you a thousandfold increase. I find, by young *W*——'s letter, there is disputing among you about *election*, and *perfection*.—I pray GOD to put a stop to it, for what good end will it answer?—I wish I knew your principles fully; did you write oftner, and more frankly, it might have a better effect than silence and reserve. I have lately had many domestic trials, and that about points of doctrine, not by myself, but from others in my absence. I daily wait upon GOD, depending on his promise, that all things, even this, shall work together for my good. Many in *Charles-Town*, I believe, are called of GOD. You may now find a christian, without searching the town as with a candle. Mr. *G*—— is less furious, at least in public. He hath expended all his strength, and finds he cannot prevail. Adieu, *Honoured Sir*, Adieu! My health is better, since I last left *Charles Town*, and am now freed from domestic cares. With almost tears of love to you, and the brethren, do I subscribe myself, honoured Sir,

Your most affectionate brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXV.

To Mrs. J—— L——, in Briſtol.

Dear J——, *Charles-Town, Aug.* 26, 1740.

I Hope you and your little ſociety go on and proſper. I hear there are diviſions among you. Avoid them if poſſible. The doctrines of election, and of final perſeverance, I hold as well as you. —But then, they are not to be contended for with heat and paſſion. Such a proceeding will only prejudice the cauſe you would defend. Pray ſhew this to your other friends.—Exhort them to avoid all clamour, and evil ſpeaking, and with meekneſs receive the ingrafted word which is able to ſave your ſoul. GOD has begun a great work here, and in other parts of *America*; but yet, I believe, I ſhall ſhortly have a call to *England*. O pray it may be the divine will, that I may have a proſperous journey; and that you may ſee me grown in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST.—With tendereſt love to all, I am

Your affectionate brother and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCXVI.

To the Right Reverend Father in GOD, *Edmund Lord Biſhop of London.*

On board the Savannah, bound from Charles-Town to Boſton, September —, 1740.

My LORD,

ALTHOUGH your Lordſhip has been pleaſed to caution the people againſt running into thoſe extremes, to which your Lordſhip apprehended my doctrine would lead men; yet I am perſuaded that will not any way influence your Lordſhip, as to the contents of this letter. The one ſingle point which it contains, is this query, "Whether the commiſſary of *South-Carolina* has power given him from your Lordſhip, to exerciſe any *judicial authority* againſt me, or any other clergyman, who doth not belong to his province?" The reaſon of my putting this queſtion, I ſuppoſe your Lordſhip will be apprized of, before this reaches your Lordſhip's hands.

I have

I have been lately cited to appear in an eccleſiaſtical court, erected by the *Reverend* Mr. *G*——, for not reading the common prayer in the meeting-houſe, which I was obliged to preach in at *Charles-Town*, (unleſs I would be ſilent) becauſe the commiſſary would not let me have the uſe of his church. I appeared, and have appealed, according to law, to four of his majeſty's commiſſioners for reviewing appeals, to know, whether the commiſſary ought not to have accepted a *Recuſatio judicis*, which I lodged in court. This, I ſuppoſe, they will determine. I only deſire your Lordſhip's explicit opinion and determination, whether Mr. *G*——, (ſuppoſing he hath power over his own clergy,) has authority to erect ſuch a court to arraign me, who belong to the province of *Georgia*. The bearer hereof will give me your Lordſhip's anſwer. In favouring me with which, your Lordſhip will oblige, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's obedient ſon and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCXVII.

To Mr. P——.

My dear Brother, *Boſton*, *Sept.* 19, 1740.

I have juſt now read your kind letter. Bleſſed be the LORD, for imparting ſomewhat of his divine preſence to your ſoul. O may he fill you brimful, and enable you ſo to preach, that all your adverſaries may not be able to gainſay or reſiſt. Never fear undertaking to preach without notes; remember the promiſe, "Lo I am with you always, even to the end of the world." By my maſter's leave, I propoſe to preach with you, and dear brother *W*——. I am a worm and no man: I deſerve to be the outcaſt of the people. On *Sunday* I arrived at *Rhode-Iſland*. Our LORD called ſome. Yeſterday I came hither, to-day I preached. May the LORD give a divine increaſe to the ſeed ſown! A great work is carrying on at *Charles-Town*. The ſpirit of GOD is moving in different parts of the world. O my dear, dear brother, let us up and be doing, and the LORD will be with us. The world is lying in the wicked one. May GOD make you inſtrumental to deliver thouſands from his curſed ſlavery! With difficulty I redeem time to write this. Brother *B*——, and *B*——, are

with me. I will endeavour to give you notice of my coming. In the mean while, ceaſe not praying for

Your weak and unworthy brother,

G. W.

LETTER CCXVIII.

To Mr. N——, at New-York.

My dear Brother, *Boſton, Sept.* 23, 1740.

HITHER GOD brought me on *Thurſday* evening: I preached once on *Friday*, and twice every day ſince. The power of the LORD advances ſweetly. Our LORD, I believe, will revive his work in the midſt of the years; he enables me to preach plainly. Some miniſters, I hope, will be quickened, as well as people. They attend, and are exceeding civil, as alſo the governor. I wrote to you from *Rhode Iſland*; I ſhall call there, as I come to you. On *Monday*, GOD willing, I ſhall ſet out to ſee Mr. *M*——, and on *Monday* fortnight hope to go to *Northampton*. All the packets of letters came ſafe. GOD bleſs my dear, dear Brother *N*—— for his great care. Friends from *England* write ſtrange things; GOD, I believe, calls me thither. Mr. *W*—— and the *M*——*s*, I think, are ſadly erroneous in ſome points of doctrine. When I ſee you, I will communicate many particulars; now, I have ſcarce time to write this. Our dear LORD ſweetly fills me with his preſence. My heaven is begun indeed. I feaſt on the fatted calf. The LORD ſtrengthens me mightily in the inner man. I find a few ſouls left in *Sardis* that have not defiled their garments. Excuſe me to Mr. *P*— —; I have not time to anſwer his kind letter! Adieu; I hope to be with you in about five weeks.—I pray for dear Brother *T*——, that he may eſpouſe more ſouls to the LORD JESUS CHRIST.—My hearty love to all.

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXIX.

To Mr. A——,

My dear Brother A—— *Boston, Sept.* 23, 1740.

I Thank you for your letter: May the LORD enable me to send you an answer of peace. *Sinless perfection*, I think, is unattainable in this life. Shew me a man that could ever justly say, "I am perfect." It is enough if we can say so, when we bow down our heads and give up the ghost. *Indwelling sin* remains till death, even in the regenerate, as the article of the church expresses it.—There is no man that liveth and sinneth not in thought, word, and deed: However, to affirm such a thing as perfection, and to deny *final perseverance*, what an absurdity is this? To be incapable of sinning, and capable of being finally damned, is a contradiction in terms. From such doctrine may I ever turn away! Labour, dear Mr. *A.* to be holy, even as GOD is holy; but do not look for complete perfection here below. What is this, but in effect to vacate the righteousness of CHRIST? I hear many amongst you who begun in the spirit, are now ending in the flesh. CHRIST hath freely justified them, *i. e.* entitled them to all his merits, and yet they must do so and so to keep themselves in a justified state. Alas, this is sorry divinity; I have not so learned CHRIST. No, his gifts and callings are without repentance. Whom he loves, he loves to the end. Work I will, but not to keep myself in a justified state. My LORD hath secured that; but I will work to shew my gratitude for his putting me into a justified state. O that all would study the covenant of grace. Dear Mr. *A.* I feel that I love you, and I find myself carried out to write in this manner. My LORD blesses me with all spiritual blessings; he causes me to rejoice in his salvation. I pray him to carry on his work in *London*, and to keep his church from errors; but there must be a sifting as well as a gathering time. It is meet that such offences should come. All shall work together for good to those who are *called after* GOD's *purpose:* They shall finally be saved. This much comforts, dear Brother *A*——,

Your affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXX.

To H. H. in Wales.

Boston, Sept. 24, 1740.

AND is dear Brother *H. H.* yet alive in body and soul? Blessed be GOD, who causes those that wait on him to renew their strength. I rejoice in your success: May you mount with wings like eagles, walk and not be weary, run and not be faint! You shall not be taken or hurt, till the appointed hour is come. I hope your conversation was blessed to dear Mr. *W.* O that the LORD may batter down his free-will, and compel him to own his sovereignty and everlasting love! Some of *F*—— *Lane* society, I fear, are running into sad errors; but this happens for our trial, especially mine. Those that before, I suppose, would have plucked out their eyes for me, now I suspect, I shall see very shy, and avoiding me. This is my comfort, the LORD is a never-failing friend; his truth will make its way in spite of all carnal reasoning. O pray for me that I may have the spirit of judgment and a sound mind. My coming to *England* will try my fidelity to my Master: Nothing but his strength can enable me to hear all contradictions with meekness, and to preach with love his everlasting truths. O that all would study the covenant of grace! The more I look into it, the more is my soul delighted. Dear Brother *H.* adieu. My dear friend *J. S.* sits by and cordially salutes you. I hope you have received my letters. I expect to hear from you by dear Brother *S.* GOD is working powerfully in *America.* He fills me with his presence, and causes me to go on my way rejoicing. Grace! grace! I greet all most affectionately, and am, dear Brother *H.*

Yours eternally,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXI.

To the Rev. Mr. J. W.

Honoured Sir, *Boston, Sept.* 25, 1740.

THIS is sent in answer to your letter dated *March* 25.— I think, I have for some time known what it is to have righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. These, I

believe, are the privileges of the ſons of GOD: But I cannot ſay I am free from indwelling ſin; no, I find a law in my members warring againſt the law of my mind: This makes me to cry out, even now, "Who ſhall deliver me from the body of this death?" I thank GOD, our LORD JESUS CHRIST will. I cannot ſee wherein the heterodoxy of the article of our church doth conſiſt, which ſays, "That this corruption remains even in the regenerate;" and if that after converſion we cannot ſin in thought, word or deed, I do not know why our LORD taught us to pray to our heavenly Father, "Forgive us our treſpaſſes." I am ſorry, honoured Sir, to hear by many letters, that you ſeem to own a *ſinleſs perfection* in this life attainable. I think I cannot anſwer you better, than a venerable old miniſter in theſe parts anſwered a Quaker. "Bring me a man that hath really arrived to this, and I will pay his expences, let him come from where he will." I know not what you may think, I do not expect to ſay indwelling ſin is finiſhed and deſtroyed in me, till I bow down my head and give up the ghoſt. There muſt be ſome *Amalekites* left in the *Iſraelites* land, to keep his ſoul in action, to keep him humble, and to drive him continually to JESUS CHRIST for pardon and forgiveneſs. I know many abuſe this doctrine, and perhaps wilfully indulge ſin, or do not aſpire after holineſs, becauſe no man is perfect in this life. But what of that? muſt I therefore aſſert doctrines contrary to the goſpel? GOD forbid. Whether the ſeventh to the *Romans*, is applicable to a converted perſon (as many very eminent ſaints have thought) is not at all to the purpoſe: There are other paſſages of ſcripture, which plainly ſhew that ſinleſs perfection is not attainable here below. Such as theſe, "There is no man that liveth and ſinneth not." "In many things we offend all." And I know no ſin except the ſin againſt the Holy Ghoſt, of which a child of GOD may not be guilty, if GOD ſhould withdraw his grace.

Whatever you may think of *David*, the ſcripture ſays, "He was a man after GOD's own heart;" yet how did he fall? And if you will not permit *Peter* to have been converted when he denied his Maſter; what will you ſay to St. *Paul?* Did not he ſin, do you think, (at leaſt were not his paſſions irre-

gular, and what is that but sin) when he spoke to the High Priest, and called him whited wall? Besides, dear Sir, what a fond conceit is it to cry up *perfection*, and yet cry down the doctrine of *final perseverance?* But this, and many other absurdities you will run into, because you will not own *Election:* And you will not own Election, because you cannot own it without believing the doctrine of *Reprobation.* What then is there in reprobation so horrid? I see no blasphemy in holding that doctrine, if rightly explained. If GOD might have passed by all, he may pass by some. Judge whether it is not a greater blasphemy to say, "CHRIST died for souls now in hell." Surely, dear Sir, you do not believe there will be a general *gaol delivery* of damned souls hereafter. O that you would study the covenant of grace! O that you were truly convinced of sin, and brought to the foot of sovereign grace! *Elisha Cole on* GOD's *sovereignty*, and *Veritas Redux*, written by Doctor *Edwards*, are well worth your reading. But I have done; if you think so meanly of *Bunyan*, and the Puritan writers, I do not wonder that you think me wrong. I find your sermon has had its expected success; it hath set the nation a disputing; you will have enough to do now to answer pamphlets; two I have already seen. O that you would be more cautious in casting lots! O that you would not be too rash and precipitant! If you go on thus, *honoured Sir*, how can I concur with you? It is impossible; I must speak what I know.—Thus I write out of the fulness of my heart: I feel myself to be a vile sinner.—I look to CHRIST; I mourn because I have pierced him. Honoured Sir, pray for me. The LORD be with your dear soul. About Spring you may expect to see,

Ever, ever yours in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCXXII.

To Mr. G—— L——.

My dear Friend and Brother, *Boston, Sept.* 26, 1740.

I Wrote to you about a month ago from *Charles-Town.*—Since I came here I have received two letters from you. May the great GOD of heaven and earth bless your dear soul for thus assisting his poor unworthy servant: A sense of my ingratitude

ingratitude almoſt melts me into a flood of tears.—Indeed I am the very chief of ſinners.—O the love, the ſovereign, diſtinguiſhing, everlaſting love of GOD my Saviour! Praiſe him, praiſe him, dear Mr. *L*——, with all your ſoul.—I hope nothing will cauſe a diviſion between me and Meſſrs. *W*——*s*: But I muſt ſpeak what I know, and confute error whereſoever I find it. About Spring I hope to come over if the LORD will.—Be pleaſed to inform my friends, that laſt *Sunday* was ſevennight I arrived at *Rhode-Iſland*, where I preached and read prayers in the church on *Monday* and *Tueſday* to very large and affected auditories.—On *Wedneſday* I preached at *Briſtol*, in my way to *Boſton*.—On *Thurſday* night I got there, and on *Friday* preached, and have preached once or twice every day ſince.—Almoſt all the miniſters, and vaſt bodies of people, have been continually preſſing to hear the word of GOD, ſometimes in the fields, and ſometimes in the meeting-houſes. My health is much reſtored by the coolneſs of the air.—I intend ſtaying about a month in theſe parts, then to go to *Philadelphia* by land, from thence to *Georgia* by water, and I hope to embark for *England* the beginning of the Spring.—You ſee by this, dear friend, how our LORD works by my unworthy hands. Miniſters and people, I believe, will be much quickened.—I hope your dear ſoul proſpers. For CHRIST's ſake avoid diſputing; ſtudy your heart and the ſcriptures; get nearer and nearer to CHRIST, he will lead you into all truth. My moſt tender love to all; if opportunity any way offers, every letter received ſhall be anſwered by, dear dear Mr. *L*——,

The meaneſt of all your chriſtian friends,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXIII.

To Mr. I——.

My dear Brother, I——, *Boſton, Sept.* 26, 1740.

I Thank you for your kind letter. It is the firſt I have received from you ſince I left *England*.—I bleſs GOD the work goes on in *Yorkſhire*.—May our glorious, ſin-forgiving LORD bleſs you and your ſpiritual children more and more! I find, our friends are got into diſputing one with another.—O that the GOD of peace may put a ſtop to it! I wiſh many may not be building on a falſe foundation, and reſt in a falſe

peace. They own *free juſtification*, and yet ſeem to think, that their continuance in a juſtified ſtate depends on their doings, and their wills.—This, I think, is eſtabliſhing a righteouſneſs of our own. My dear brother, if we ſearch the ſcriptures, we ſhall find that the word *juſtified* implies not only pardon of ſin, but alſo all its conſequences. —"Thus (ſays Saint *Paul*) thoſe whom he juſtified, them he alſo glorified;" ſo that if a man was once juſtified, he remains ſo to all eternity. —Here lies the anchor of all my hopes. — Our LORD having once loved me, he will love me to the end. — This fills me with joy unſpeakable and full of glory.—I now walk by faith. —I work not to keep myſelf in a juſtified ſtate, (for men or devils can never pluck me out of CHRIST's hands,) but to expreſs my love and gratitude for what JESUS hath done for my ſoul. This, I think, is what the apoſtle calls "faith working by love." My dear brother, my heart's deſire and prayer to GOD is, that we may all think and ſpeak the ſame things. — For, if we are divided among ourſelves, what an advantage will ſatan get over us? Let us love one another, excite all to come to CHRIST without exception, and our LORD will ſhew us, who are his. The work of GOD goes on exceedingly in *America*. The LORD is pleaſed to manifeſt himſelf unto my ſoul more and more. I am a naughty, ſtubborn child; but my dear LORD will have mercy becauſe he will have mercy. It is owing to his diſtinguiſhing love that I am not hardened. Here is, and I believe will be a great quickning in theſe parts. — The cloud ſeems to be moving. Perhaps in the Spring we may meet face to face. With difficulty I get time to write this, but I muſt anſwer dear Brother *I*——'s letter.—May the LORD JESUS be continually with your ſpirit, and make your ſoul brimful of peace and joy in the Holy Ghoſt. I love you in the bowels of the crucified Lamb. May he unite us more and more intimately to his dear ſelf, and to one another. Salute all that love him in ſincerity.—Brethren, pray for us.— That you may be kept by GOD's power to eternal ſalvation, is the prayer of

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy brother and poor weak ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXXIV.

To Mr. W—— D——.

Dear Brother W——, *Boſton, September* 28, 1740.

I Thank you for your kind letter from *Oſſet*; I wiſh it was written with more life. I fear you are turning almoſt to a ſpirit of bondage: but it is good for you to be ſifted, to make an experienced miniſter of JESUS CHRIST. I could not but ſmile, to find you wink at the *decency of my dreſs*. Alas! my brother, I have known long ſince what it is to be in that ſtate you are (in my opinion) about to enter into. I myſelf thought once that chriſtianity required me to go naſty. I neglected myſelf as much as you would have me, for above a twelvemonth: but when GOD gave me the ſpirit of adoption, I then dreſſed *decently*, as you call it, out of principle: and I am more and more convinced, that the LORD would have me act, in that reſpect, as I do. But I am almoſt aſhamed to mention any ſuch thing: rather let us talk and write of the love of JESUS; "Let us ſtand faſt in the liberty wherewith JESUS CHRIST hath made us free, and not be again entangled in a yoke of bondage." GOD only knows whether you have done right in leaving the univerſity, or in declining to exhort. If you do not preach till you are perfectly free from all ſin, I believe you will never preach again. I could never hear of ſuch a miniſter or chriſtian yet. My dear brother, I ſpeak freely to you, becauſe I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. He ſent his diſciples to preach before they were perfect; nay, when they were weak in grace. Exerciſe the talents you have, and that is the way to get more. Thus has GOD dealt with me for theſe ſeven years. "To him that hath, ſhall be given." Many of our friends talk againſt election: a good reaſon may be given. I believe they have never taken pains to ſearch into the true ſtate of the caſe. What if ſome abuſe that doctrine; is it therefore falſe? No; by no means. I am perſuaded, if any of our friends would examine their experiences, they would find that JESUS CHRIST freely prevented them by his grace; that he compelled them to come in; and that it is not owing to themſelves, but to the will and promiſe of GOD, that they are now kept in a ſtate of

grace. But I will say no more. My dear brother, I love you. May the LORD lead you into all truth. Our dear Master is doing wonders among us. Praise him lustily, and with a good courage. Adieu. Dear *J—— S——* salutes you and the brethren, as does

Yours affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXV.

To the Rev. Mr. Z—— M——.

Reverend and dear Brother, *Boston, Sept.* 28, 1740.

I Received—I felt your letter. Surely there is a sympathy between souls that have drank into the same spirit. GOD willing, I purpose to come and see you; and will endeavour to send you timely notice: but oh do not expect too great things from me; for if you do, who knows but my LORD may desert me; and then what am I? Excuse the brevity of this. So many persons come to me under convictions, and for advice, that I have scarce time to eat bread. Wonderful things are doing here. The word runs like lightning. *Dagon* daily falls before the ark. I know you will, in spirit, pray that a due sense of his own vileness may be continually given to

Your affectionate, though unworthy,
brother and servant in our glorious *Emmanuel*,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXVI.

To Mr. W——, at Bristol.

Dear Brother W——, *Boston, Sept.* 28, 1740.

WHAT mean you by disputing in all your letters? May GOD give you to know yourself, and then you will not plead for *absolute perfection*; or call the doctrine of election a "doctrine of devils." My dear brother, take heed; see you are in CHRIST a new creature. Beware of a false peace: strive to enter in at the strait gate; and give all diligence to make your calling and election sure. Remember you are but a babe in CHRIST, if so much. Be humble, talk little, think and pray much. Let GOD teach you, and he will lead you into all truth. I love you heartily: I pray you

you may be kept from error, both in principle and practice. Salute all the brethren. If you must dispute, stay till you are master of your subject; otherwise you will hurt the cause you would defend. Study to adorn the gospel of our LORD in all things; and forget not to pray for

Your affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXVII.

To Mr. G—— L——.

My dear Brother L——, *Boston, October* 9, 1740.

I Write to you again by this ship, though I have scarce time to write a line. GOD works by me, I think, more than ever. I am quite well in bodily health. Ministers as well as people are stirred up, and the government is exceeding civil. In short, GOD is doing greater things than can be expressed. Oh exhort all to pray, and to give thanks for me with their whole hearts. The bearer brings the authentic copy of my appeal; I sent you another copy before from *Carolina*. Be pleased to keep this I have now sent, till you hear of my coming to *England:* if I come in the Spring, I will lodge it myself; if not, be pleased to lodge it for me, and I will pay all expences. O dear brother *L*——, what a scene of labours and sufferings lies before me! My dear JESUS will make me more than conqueror over all: he strengthens and comforts, he converses with me by night and by day: he gives me all peace and joy in believing. I pray GOD to keep our dear brother *S*—— and others from a false stillness. I am sorry to hear such errors are risen amongst the brethren. Adieu; the LORD be with your spirit. I have already collected upwards of four hundred pounds sterling for the Orphan-house. GOD shews me that *America* must be my place for action. Once more adieu. Cease not to pray for,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXXVIII.

To Mr. J—— H——.

Newhaven, Oct. 24, 1740.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

YOUR letter, just now brought to me by dear brother *N*——, gave me great comfort. With fear and trembling, ever since the late disputations, have I opened letters sent from *Savannah*; but blessed be GOD, our dear LORD is with my dear friend *H*——. Blessed be GOD, my family dwell together in unity. The GOD of love fill you with all peace and joy in believing. I hope a supply for your then present wants, came to you soon after you sent your letters: since that, I have sent from *Boston* 100 l. sterling; next week I hope to send again from *New-York*, and before *Christmas* I trust I shall see you face to face. Wonderful things GOD does for me. I am enabled to preach and travel better than ever. There has been joy in heaven, I believe, over many souls repenting. There are some hopes of dear, dear brother *N*——'s coming with me. Mr. *B*——, one of the young ministers of *Long Island*, with his wife, accompanies me also; and another settled christian, who holds and experiences the truth as it is in JESUS. O that all my family may be thus minded! I suppose by this time you know how matters are determined for me, if Mr. *C*—— is arrived. GOD keeps me in suspense: suspense did I say? Blessed be his holy name, I am quite easy: I am persuaded he will chuse for me a daughter of *Abraham*. I know not but it may be the divine will that you should abide in *Georgia*, whilst I go to *England*. Be resigned: see if GOD does not bring all things about for your good: there is but little comfort to be expected in *England*. I find I must, if I am faithful, oppose the errors of many who, I believe, fear GOD: O that I may do it with meekness and wisdom. Methinks I now long to be with you all at *Savannah*. Pray for my speedy passage. I am glad GOD is scourging out the children of *Belial:* you have often heard me say GOD would do so. Never fear; a remnant will be left, which shall take root downwards, and bear fruit upwards, and yet fill the land. My dear brother, adieu: I am called away.

away. I love you more ſolidly than ever. Dear *J*—— *S*——, Mr. *F*——, and *P*——, love you too: we travel very comfortably: thouſands of prayers are continually put up for me and mine. My love to all, without exception. Feed the lambs, ſtudy the purity of their hearts, and thereby rejoice the ſoul of

Yours moſt affectionately and eternally in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXIX.

To Mr. J—— W——.

Dear and honoured Sir, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 9, 1740.

I Received your's, dated *March* 11, this afternoon. Oh that we were of one mind: for I am yet perſuaded you greatly err. You have ſet a mark you will never arrive at, till you come to glory. I think few enjoy ſuch continued manifeſtations of GOD's preſence as I do, and have done, for ſome years; but I dare not pretend to ſay I ſhall be abſolutely perfect. O, dear Sir, many of GOD's children are grieved at your principles; O that GOD may give you a ſight of his free, ſovereign, and electing love! But no more of this: why will you compel me to write thus? why will you diſpute? I am willing to go with you to priſon, and to death; but I am not willing to oppoſe you. My heart is now much affected: indeed I love and honour you. Dear, dear Sir, ſtudy the covenant of grace, that you may be conſiſtent with yourſelf: haſten O LORD, the bleſſed time! I fancy I ſhall embark for *England* about Spring; but am not yet determined. GOD ſhews me his goodneſs plenteouſly every day. I dwell in CHRIST, and CHRIST in me: glory be to ſovereign grace. I ſeem to have a new body, and the LORD JESUS greatly enriches my ſoul. O I am a poor ſinner! but our LORD frequently manifeſts himſelf in ſuch a manner, that it throws me into an agony which my body is almoſt too weak to bear. Honoured Sir, adieu. O build up, but do not lead into error, the ſouls once committed to the charge of

Your affectionate, unworthy brother and ſervant,

in the loving JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXXX.

To Mr. H—— H——, in Wales.

Philadelphia, Nov. 9, 1740.

My very dear Brother H——,

I Wrote to you from *Boſton*. Your letter, written near a twelve-month ago, came to my hand this afternoon. My ſoul is knit to you: we both ſpeak and think the ſame things. The LORD be with your ſpirit. JESUS manifeſts forth his glory daily in theſe parts. Though I am ſuch a vile, worthleſs, ungrateful wretch, yet the LORD fills me out of his divine fulneſs day by day. His word is like a fire, and a hammer: laſt week I ſaw many quite ſtruck down. Our LORD is working upon little children. *America*, ere long, will be famous for chriſtians. Surely the candleſtick will ſhortly be removed from *England*. Little did I think, when Mr. *E—— J——* wrote, that I ſhould preach in all the chief places of *America*: but that is now done; glory be to rich, free, and ſovereign grace! Perhaps about Spring I may embark for my native country: the LORD vouchſafe us a happy meeting. O *Wales*, thou art dear to my ſoul! My love to all the brethren. Dear brother *H———*, I pray GOD you may proſper, even as your ſoul proſpers. Expect another journal ſhortly: but wait till we come to glory, fully to ſee and hear what GOD hath done for

Your affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXXI.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher, Eſq; in Boſton.

Philadelphia, Nov. 9, 1740.

THOUGH late, I now ſnatch a few moments to ſend your excellency my acknowledgments for all honours received at *Boſton:* they are much upon my heart. I pray GOD to reward your excellency a thouſand-fold.

Great things hath the glorious *Emmanuel* done for me and his people on the way: the word has been attended with much power. Surely our LORD intends to ſet *America* in a flame.

This

This week Mr. *G*—— *T*—— purposes to set out for *Boston*, in order to blow up the divine fire lately kindled there. I recommend him to your excellency as a solid, judicious, and zealous minister of the LORD JESUS CHRIST: he will be ready to preach daily: I suppose his brethren will readily open their doors: may the LORD at the same time open the people's hearts, that they may diligently attend to the things that shall be spoken. Dear Mr. *R*—— grows in grace: I left him at *Brunswick*, full of gratitude for his late journey. I am persuaded it was of GOD. I hope he will be instrumental in quickening both ministers and people. He is worthy of your excellency's particular regard: under GOD he may need it. I expect he will soon be reviled and persecuted for his blessed Master's sake: may the LORD enable him to rejoice and be exceeding glad. Dear Sir, the welfare of dear *Boston* people, especially the welfare of your own soul, lies upon me night and day. I remember your tears: I remember your excellency's words, "Mr. *Whitefield*, pray that I may hunger and thirst after righteousness." O how did these words rejoice me! for I thought your excellency wanted a more clear view of your own vileness, and of the all-sufficiency of JESUS CHRIST; I mean a more clear, experimental view: for what is all head-knowledge without that of the heart? it only settles people more upon their lees. May GOD give you to see and to follow the simplicity of the blessed JESUS. Whilst you are in the world, may you not be of it: may you be dead to magnificence, and alive to nothing but what leads you directly to your GOD.

Honoured Sir, I make no apology for this freedom: your excellency bid me not spare rulers; no, not the chief of them. Indeed I long after your salvation; O that I could do any thing to promote it! If my prayers, or any thing within my power may be instrumental thereunto, your excellency may command, honoured Sir,

Your Excellency's obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXXXII.

To Mr. M———, at London.

My dear Brother, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1740.

STILL my LORD shews me greater things. At *New-York* the Holy Ghost came down like a mighty rushing wind. At *Baskenridge* still a greater awakening among young and old. One that received CHRIST cried out, "He is come! He is come!" *&c.* The poor creature was wrapped up in the LORD JESUS: and both there and at *New-York* my soul was taken almost out of the body. At *Newark* the LORD worked wonderfully amongst some young men; and here at *Philadelphia* the word runs very swiftly. This afternoon, how beautiful did the LORD appear in his sanctuary! I would cry out, "How amiable are thy dwellings, thou LORD of hosts!" In several places, almost as large as *Northampton*, are many faithful labourers. We all think and speak the same things: O that it was so at *London!* The LORD enables me to confute error wherever I see it. Pray for me, that I may be made faithful to my LORD and Master: he is dearer to me every day: he will have mercy, because he will have mercy. See brother *L*——'s letter. Another journal comes out shortly. My hearty love to all. Stand fast in the faith: quit yourselves like men: be strong. Above all, give thanks to GOD; and pray in behalf of, dear Mr. *M*——,

Your most affectionate brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXXIII.

To Mr. G—— L——.

Dear Brother L——, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 10, 1740.

I Wrote to you last week from *New-York*. You may give friends this brief account of me: On last *Saturday* evening I arrived at this place, having preached at *Staten Island*, *Newark*, *Baskenridge*, *New Brunswick*, and *Trenton*, in my way hither from *New York*. A wonderful presence of GOD was observable at *New-York*, *Baskenridge*, and *Newark*. I preached here twice

twice yesterday, and also to-day, in a large house built by the people since I was here last. It is an hundred feet long, and seventy feet wide; and is intended for a school, as well as a place for public worship. The walls are brick, and the roof is now almost ready to be put up. GOD hath remarkably appeared in the carrying on the building; and the holy spirit hath sweetly moved on the hearers souls every time I preached in it. I intend, GOD willing, to stay here this, and to embark for *Georgia* the latter end of next week; and propose, GOD willing, to return to *England* for a short time, in the Spring.

The LORD highly favours me; I am more sick of myself, and more in love with CHRIST daily: he is a dear, dear Master: Oh that all would love him with all their hearts! Adieu: it is late. The LORD be with your spirit.

Your affectionate friend, brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXXIV.

To the Rev. Mr. D——, at New Brunswick.

My very dear Brother, *Salem, Nov.* 20, 1740.

EXCESS of business, not a want of love, prevented my writing to you from *Philadelphia*. I feel that I love you in the bowels of the dear Jesus, our ever blessed and glorious *Emmanuel*: he hath done great things for me since you left us. Yesterday at *Cohansie* the spirit of the LORD moved over the whole congregation: what reason have we to be thankful for the great things we both see and hear! My dear brother, indeed I desire to lie in the dust. O how good is my LORD to me! thoughts cannot conceive, or words express it! I long to be in glory, that I may praise him as I would. I rejoice to hear that the LORD is with you. Shortly, I believe, you will evangelize. All friends kindly salute you. Adieu. In great haste, I am

Your very affectionate, though unworthy brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXXXV.

To Mr. J—— H——.

Bohemia, (Maryland) Nov. 24, 1740.

My very dear Brother,

I Rejoice to hear that you are married: I salute your wife and my sister in CHRIST: may you love one another, as CHRIST and his church. I have lately conversed closely with *P—— B——:* alas! we differ widely in many respects; therefore, to avoid disputation and jealousies on both sides, it is best to carry on the work of GOD apart. The divisions among the brethren sometimes grieve, but do not surprize me. How can it be otherwise, when teachers do not think and speak the same things? GOD grant we may keep up a cordial undissembled love towards each other, notwithstanding our different opinions. O how do I long for heaven! Surely, *there* will be no divisions, no strife there, but who shall sing with most affection to the Lamb that sitteth upon the throne. Dear *James*, there I hope to meet thee; for the dear JESUS, I believe, hath locked thee fast in his almighty arms. Lean thou on his sacred bosom night and day; keep close to him, and be what I long to be, a little child. Adieu. I am ready to weep tears of love. My dear brother, I should be glad to wash any of the brethren's feet: indeed I am now willing to be the servant of all. The more the LORD honours me, the more I feel my unworthiness. I am sometimes sick of love, and often, often sick of self. O that GOD should have mercy on such a sinner! Help me, dear *James*, to praise my Saviour. A glorious church is raising in *America*. The LORD mightily reveals his arm. It would please you to see his outgoings, his stately steps in the great congregation. I only want fellow-labourers. I look to JESUS for this, and for every thing. I desire you to print nothing against your conscience: only do not immediately censure every thing that may not seem clear to you: our LORD may guide me, even into things which as yet you may not see into. The day of judgment will discover all. Adieu.

Ever, ever yours in our blessed *Emmanuel*,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXXXVI.

To the Rev. Mr. J. W.

Bohemia (Maryland) Nov. 24, 1740.

Dear and Hon. Sir,

LAST night brother *G*—— brought me your two kind letters. O that there may be harmony, and very intimate union between us! Yet it cannot be, since you hold *universal Redemption*. But no more of this. Perhaps, in Spring, we may see each other face to face. This evening, GOD willing, I propose to embark for *Georgia*. Wonderful things our LORD brings to pass, in these parts, every day. Here is a close opposition from some of the *Presbyterian Clergy*. The seed of the serpent is the same in all, of whatever communion. I expect much more opposition every hour. The devil rages in *London*. He begins now to triumph indeed. The children of GOD are disunited among themselves. The king of the church shall yet over-rule all things for good. My dear brother, for CHRIST's sake avoid all disputation. Do not oblige me to preach against you; I had rather die. Be gentle towards the ——. They will get great advantage over you, if they discover any irregular warmth in your temper. I cannot for my soul unite with the *Moravian Brethren*. *Honoured Sir*, Adieu!

Yours eternally in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXXVII.

Saint George's (Pensylvania) Nov. 24, 1740.

Dear Brother T——,

GOD has revived his own work in *Philadelphia*. His glory filled the great house. The affairs belonging thereto, I believe, are well settled. We have had precious times at *Cohansi*, *Salem*, *Fogs-mannor*, *Nottingham*, *Whiteclay*, *Creek* and *Bohemia*. Brother *G*—— is come from *England* very opportunely. Brother *S*—— comes about *Christmas*. The brethren I think do grow, though sadly divided. But our LORD will order all for good. — Upon several accounts, I

think it beſt to embark for *England* as ſoon as poſſible in the Spring. O pray for me, that I may not by any means grieve the children of GOD. I hope the weather is warm enough for you. I truſt our LORD has warmed and filled your dear ſoul. Your brother *Charles* is with me. My dear fellow travellers ſalute you and our dear brother *R*——. My love to all that love the LORD JESUS. The war goes on bravely between *Michael* and the *Dragon*. Our dear LORD (O condeſcending love!) is wonderous kind to your poor, weak, unworthy brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXXVIII.

Dear Mr. F——, *Reedy-Iſland, Nov.* 26, 1740.

I Thank you for your letter.—You may print my life, as you deſire. GOD willing, I ſhall correct my two volumes of ſermons, and ſend them the very firſt opportunity. — Pray write to me by every ſhip, that goes ſhortly to *Charles-Town*.——

I ſhall embark for *England*, GOD willing, about *February*.— I deſire I may hear from you there alſo, as often as poſſible. I have prefaced *Jenks*, and *Preſumptuous ſinners detected*. Mr. *Bradford* has the laſt, becauſe he ſaid he was to print it. You may have it of him.—The *Ornaments of the daughter of Sion*, you may have hereafter. Dear Sir, Adieu. I do not deſpair of your ſeeing the reaſonableneſs of chriſtianity. Apply to GOD; be willing to do the divine will, and you ſhall know it. I have heard from Mr. *S*——; all is well. To-day ſeveral friends have taken leave of me at this place, waiting for a fair wind in order to embark for *Georgia*. I think I have been on ſhore 73 days, and have been enabled to travel upwards of 800 miles, and to preach 170 times, beſides very frequent exhortations at private houſes. I have collected, in goods and money, upwards of 700*l*. ſterling, for the Orphan-houſe; bleſſed be GOD! Great and viſible are the fruits of my late, as well as former feeble labours, and people in general ſeem more eager after the word than ever. O the love of GOD to

Your unworthy friend,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXXXIX.

To Mr. N. in New-York.

My very dear Brother, *Charles-Town, Dec.* 10, 1740.

IN eight days, the LORD brought us hither. We arrived laſt night, when the Redeemer vouchſafed ſo to fill me with his divine conſolations, that I could ſcarce ſleep. I have been preaching this morning on the fire that happened of late from theſe words, Iſa. i. 9. "Except the LORD of HOSTS had left unto us a very ſmall remnant, we ſhould have been as *Sodam*, and we ſhould have been like unto *Gomorrah*." I am now determined to ſee *England* as ſoon as poſſible. I have had much of GOD's preſence in our paſſage hither from *Philadelphia*, and have many precious letters to ſend you. O follow me with your prayers. I leave *Charles-Town*, GOD willing, to-night, in order to haſten to their relief, and ſhall go in the ſame ſloop which brought me here, to my beloved *Georgia*. As ſoon as poſſible, I will ſend you a long letter. In the mean while, accept of my love from, dear Mr. *N*——,

Your very affectionate friend and brother
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCXL.

To Mr. G—— C——.

On board the Savannah for Georgia, Dec. 11, 1740.

Dear Brother C——,

YOUR late letters, eſpecially that which you ſent me by way of *Charles-Town*, made me ſmile. — I was glad to find that you had not ſo far thrown off all outward things, as to reſolve not to write to any one; and I thought I knew the frame of your heart, as though I was within you. My dear, dear *George C*——, I love you tenderly in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, and therefore would not have you be deceived. Alas, why do you pervert this text of ſcripture, "Be ſtill, and know that I am the LORD," as if it was deſigned to keep a chriſtian from ſtriving, or meant a *ſtillneſs of body*, or waiting upon GOD only in ſilence? The expreſſion is taken out of the 46th Pſalm, where GOD's fury againſt the heathen is

deſcribed in the moſt lively colours; and then leſt his people ſhould complain of the ſeverity of his diſpenſations, GOD commands them to be *ſtill*, "not to murmur or repine, knowing that he was the LORD, and might do what ſeemed him good." Thus *Tate* and *Brady* in their tranſlations explain it, and this is the true and genuine meaning of that ſentence. It hath no reference to ſtillneſs in prayer, or ſtillneſs of body. Dear brother, I ſpeak to you plainly, becauſe I love you. I think I know what it is to wait upon the LORD in ſilence, and to feel the ſpirit of GOD making interceſſion for me with groanings which cannot be uttered. Often have I been at ſuch times filled as it were with the fulneſs of GOD, and I do now daily carry on a communion with the moſt high GOD and the ever-bleſſed JESUS. But all this I fear is contrary to the *falſe ſtillneſs*, you and ſome others ſeem to have fallen into. I was juſt in the ſame caſe ſome years ago at *Oxford*, when I declined writing, reading, and ſuch like exerciſes, becauſe I would be *ſtill*. The LORD convinced me; I pray he may alſo convince you of this deluſion. Dear *George*, conſider how contrary your maxim is to our Saviour's. You ſay, "*Be ſtill.*" He ſays, "*Strive.*" As in an agony, "Strive that you may enter in at the ſtrait gate." Indeed, my dear man, I pity you, knowing you have but a weak judgment, though a well-meaning heart. You once thought that you was born again; then, you found it was only an elapſe of the Holy Ghoſt. You uſed to ſay, you wiſhed you could believe from experience in the doctrine of election; now, you find as yet no evidence within yourſelf that you are a real chriſtian. You take too much refuge, I fear, in the doctrine of *univerſal redemption*. It is the fineſt doctrine in the world to cauſe a ſoul to be falſely ſtill, and to ſay *Peace*, *Peace*, when there is no peace. You ſeem to inſiſt upon ſinleſs perfection, and to think a man hath no real ſalvation till he literally cannot commit ſin. From whoſe experience do you write this? Not from your *own*, dear *George*; for I much queſtion, if ever your heart was truly broken or had a ſaving cloſure with CHRIST. You ſeem to mention *Peter Bochler* as an inſtance; but alas, though he has been waſhed in the blood of the Lamb, ſo as to be juſtified from all his ſins, yet like me his feet want waſhing ſtill, and will, till

till he bows down his head and gives up the ghoſt. I have converſed with him intimately. Take heed, brother, of having any thing too much in admiration, or of thinking you muſt neceſſarily find CHRIST at ſuch and ſuch a place. You have been at *M*——. I believe you have ſeen many dear children of GOD; but have you returned home with CHRIST in your heart? Your letters do not ſpeak much improvement in the ſchool of CHRIST. If GOD loves you, he will let you ſee the vanity of your preſent imaginations, and bring you to ſee that ſalvation is not of him that willeth, or of him that runneth, but of GOD that ſheweth mercy. Dear *George*, be not given to change; be not too fond of new things. "To the law and to the teſtimony," and ſee what CHRIST and his apoſtles have ſpoken. I ſpeak this out of love, and not in reference to myſelf. If GOD bleſſes another miniſtry to your ſoul, I rejoice, yea and will rejoice. But if I ſee you fall into errors, do not be angry if I tell you the truth. If you are, I will notwithſtanding love and pray for you. That errors are crept in among you, I think is too plain: but I ſuſpend my judgment till the Spring, when, GOD willing, I hope to be in *London*. In the mean while pray for me, that I may with joy bear to be deſerted by thoſe, who once were bleſſed and awakened by my miniſtry, and to whom I am a ſpiritual father, though they may have many inſtructors. Dear *George*, may the LORD be with you. He only knows how dear you are to my heart. It is near midnight; but it was much upon my heart to write you this letter. That GOD may ſanctify it to your edification and comfort, is the hearty prayer of

Your affectionate friend, brother
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCXLI.

To the Rev. Mr. C——ncey

Good-Hope (South-Carolina) Jan. 1. 1741.

Rev. and dear Sir,

I am now going to *Charles-Town*, in order to embark for *England*; the cloud of GOD's providence ſeems to be

moving that way; I have enjoyed much of the divine presence since I left *Boston*, and have had a comfortable Christmas with my dear family at *Georgia*. At my return, I found my Orphan-household removed from *Savannah* to *Bethesda*, and great improvements made during the time of my absence. The great house will be finished, GOD willing, so as to be habitable, in about two months. It would have been finished so far by this time, if the *Spaniards* had not taken a schooner loaded with bricks and other provisions to a considerable value; but GOD about the same time stirred up the heart of a planter in *South-Carolina*, lately brought home at the orphan-house to GOD, to send my family some rice and beef. At other times, when they have wanted food, the *Indians* have brought plenty of venison. GOD, every day, more and more convinces us that this work is of him. His power has been made known, especially among the young ones. I bless GOD, I have settled my family to my great satisfaction, and verily believe I shall live to see great things come from the Orphan-house. GOD works upon the hearts of the labourers. One woman hath had a glorious discovery of CHRIST made to her heart: last week, two or three men where brought into heart-distress, and another young man that came to see us, was made so sick of sin, as to feel the want of, and to enquire after the great and all-powerful physician of souls. My family, I think, consists now of 89 persons. Next year my expences will be contracted much; but at present, I am in debt about 500*l.* sterling. However, I know in whom I have believed, ONE who is able to pay it. My public accounts will be published as soon as I arrive at *London*, with a prospect of the Orphan-house, and other little houses and gardens annexed unto it. I am now at the house of one *Mr. Jonathan B*——, who, I trust, with his brother *Mr. H*—— *B*——, and another young man, lately a player in *New-York*, are settled by a living faith in JESUS CHRIST. The latter, I intend for the ministry. Mr. *H*—— *B*——'s wife died not long since, rejoicing in GOD her Saviour. Several others also in these parts are grown in grace, and Mr. *C*——'s ministry hath been much blessed.—Satan hath been sowing tares in old *England*. Oh that *Boston* ministers and

people

people may pray for me! Indeed, I love them in the bowels of the bleſſed JESUS. *Vale! longum etſi ſpero non in æternum, vale.* That CHRIST's kingdom may flouriſh in your heart, and that you may greatly promote it in the ſouls of others, is the hearty prayer of, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your affectionate unworthy fellow-ſervant,
in our common LORD,
G. W.

LETTER CXLII.

To the Rev. Mr. C———.

Dear and Reverend Sir, *Charles-Town, Jan.* 12, 1741.

LAST *Saturday* I was taken up for being concerned in correcting the incloſed printed letter, written by Mr. *H—B——n*, whoſe converſion you have an account of in the other letter ſent herewith. I think it may be for GOD's glory to have them all printed in *Boſton*. I am bound over to appear next ſeſſions, as well as Mr. *B——*. He, I believe, for *libelling the king*, and I for *libelling the clergy*, in ſaying they break the Canons daily. I think, dear Sir, theſe are earneſts of what I muſt expect to meet with in my native country. Oppoſition, as yet, ſeems to be only like a cloud riſing out of the ſea, no bigger than a man's hand. Perhaps it will gather to a great body, and break upon the church of GOD. Our LORD will be our refuge in every ſtorm. He is much with my ſoul, and fills me abundantly, I could almoſt ſay ſuperabundantly, with his preſence. We have ſeen precious times. One perſon had a glorious diſcovery of CHRIST about two days ago. I expect my family will be like the burning buſh. I find I am in debt for them upwards of ſix hundred pounds: but the LORD will provide.—My moſt tender love awaits all that love him. I am to appear at the ſeſſions by an attorney. Dear Sir, remember,

Ever yours in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCXLIII.

To the Rev. Mr. C——, at Rhode Island.

Reverend and Dear Sir, *Charles-Town, Jan.* 16, 1741.

I Snatch a few moments to write you a line before I embark for *England.* Bleſſed be GOD, you are near your deſired haven. Yet a little while, and you ſhall ſafely arrive in *Abraham's* boſom. *I præ, ſequar, eſti non paſſibus equis.* — Great things GOD is doing daily. The kingdom of heaven (I hope) is at hand. I am bound over to appear at the ſeſſions here, by my attorney, for libelling the clergy, becauſe I corrected the letter incloſed. A ſcene of ſuffering lies before me, but wherefore ſhould I fear? Our LORD ſtrenghthens me mightily in the inner man. We have had much of his preſence in our aſſemblies. But I muſt have done. Dear and Reverend Sir, adieu. I ſcarce expect to ſee you again in the fleſh; but this is my comfort, I ſhall ſee and rejoice with you above. There, I will ſit and tell you what GOD hath done for

Your unworthy brother and ſervant in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCXLIV.

To the Rev. Mr. C——, in Boſton.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Charles-Town, Jan.* 16, 1741.

THOUGH I have packed up two letters for you already, yet I cannot refrain from ſending you a third. Juſt now I was favoured with yours dated laſt *December* 1. Indeed, it gave me much comfort, and endeared the writer of it to me more and more. Sir, why am I thus highly favoured! I now wiſh to ſink exceeding low, and cry out, Grace, grace! O the love of GOD! The ſovereignty of CHRIST! The unchangeable loving-kindneſs of our heavenly Father! Excuſe me, dear Mr. *C*——; my heart is full. I want for all men to love the LORD JESUS. It greatly rejoices me, to hear ſo many are coming to him. He is a loving tender maſter. He attends to my minuteſt wants, and ſurprizingly helps me in every emergency. I thank dear Mr. *C*——, for the kind token of his love. Good meaſure preſſed down and running over, may

GOD

GOD return into your bosom! You will be pleased to correct the press. I am filled with comfort to hear of the conduct of the dear governor, &c. I cannot but think our LORD will let his word run, and be abundantly glorified in *America*. *Boston* people are much upon my heart. The memory of their forefathers is precious to my soul. May you live to see the spirit of scriptural *Puritanism* universally prevail! I hope you will write every opportunity. If I am in prison, it will make me arise at midnight to sing praises to GOD, to hear that *Boston* people are alive to CHRIST. At present, my heart is full of peace and joy. We have had solemn meetings. I am much strengthened on every side; but I must not say more. Time is short. Dear Mr. *C*——, adieu. May the LORD be with you and yours. I could now drop a tear of love.—My love to all.

I am yours &c.

G. W.

LETTER CCXLV.

To Mr. W—— D——, at Boston.

On board the Minerva, for England, Jan. 17, 1741.

Dear Sir,

MR. *P*—— hath just brought me your kind letter. Blessed be GOD, that his word runs and is glorified in *Boston*. Surely, dear Sir, I shall never forget that people; indeed, they are very near and dear unto my soul. May those of your own household, in particular, be not only convicted but converted; may the dear JESUS fill you with all peace and joy in believing, and enable you to pray for, dear Sir,

Yours in the blessed JESUS,

G. W.

P. S. Excuse great haste; our ship is just under sail. My dear companions kindly salute you and yours.

LETTER

LETTER CCXLVI.

To Mr. Wm. G——.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 8, 1741. *in latitude* 35, 24 N.

My dear brother,

SEE how soon I write to you, and from thence infer how I love you. Whether it proceeds from the pride and naughtiness of my heart, I cannot tell; but, I frankly confess, I love to see persons humble, kind, and courteous to those, whom GOD hath made their spiritual fathers. I believe it is well pleasing to GOD, and very amiable in the sight of all good men. Your christian grateful behaviour to me in this respect, hath much endeared you to me. GOD only knows how I love you. I bear you upon my heart, and often secretly sigh out before the LORD,—"O let my dear brother *G*—— live before thee." This is the desire of my soul for you. I cannot wish you a better thing. Yet a little while, and we shall be together again. But, before that time, I expect to suffer great things. The LORD is able to deliver me out of all. I have just now experienced his divine assistance in composing a sermon. This is the *sixth* which he has enabled me to finish, since I have been on board. O my dear brother, love a precious CHRIST, and shew it by adorning his gospel in all things. He has highly favoured you, indeed he hath. If you and I are not eminently holy, if you and I think any thing too much to be done for the LORD, we are of all men the most ungrateful. O the love of CHRIST! I feel it, I feel it. GOD now sheds it abroad in my heart. May it abundantly also be shed on you by the Holy Ghost. Write to me if in prison, my friends will bring it to me there. GOD will hear me for you even in a dungeon. Methinks I see you weep; but weep not for me, unless it be before the LORD, and then I care not how soon you retire, and pour out your prayers in behalf of, dear Mr. *G*——,

Your affectionate friend, brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCXLVII.

To Mrs. L——, at Charles-Town.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 11, 1741.

Dear Mrs. L———,

YOU was upon the mount when I left *Charles-Town*; I hope you have not thrown yourself down. Keep close to CHRIST, and cast not off your first love. Remember what GOD has done for your soul. Forget not the glorious discovery JESUS CHRIST has made of himself to your heart; and though a cloud should overshadow you, let not Satan make you doubt of your being a child of GOD. O Mrs. *L*——, how holy ought you to be in all manner of conversation and godliness! Why are you taken? Why are you in the arms of everlasting love? Methinks I hear you cry out, Grace! grace! And well you may; for indeed you are saved by grace. The free grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST be with you now and for ever more. Blessed be GOD, I experience much of it in the ship. I hope divine grace moves me to send you this small letter. If GOD blesses it to your soul, put up a short prayer for

Your affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXLVIII.

To Mrs. W——, at James-Island.

Dear Madam, *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 11, 1741.

MY heart's desire and prayer to GOD is, that you may be saved. I hope you will find, it is not impossible for you to be born again when you are old. GOD forbid. Though at the eleventh hour, I trust our LORD will meet you, and cause you, whenever you depart, with good old *Simeon*, to depart in peace. I heartily thank you, madam, for all favours conferred on me and mine. We have not forgotten you on board. I do not forget to mention you in my secret prayers. May GOD reveal his dear Son in your soul, and fill you with all peace and joy in believing! O what a staff will this be to you in your old age! How pleasantly then will you walk by your vault, and say, "There shall I lay my weary bones ere long."

long." I hope you do not ſtartle at the thoughts of death. Believe in CHRIST. Get a ſaving intereſt in his blood, and then you may cry out, "O death, where is thy ſting! O grave, where is thy victory?" Bleſſed be GOD, the proſpect of death is pleaſing to my ſoul. I would not live here always: I want to be gone. That you and I, whenever our appointed time is come, may live with CHRIST, is the earneſt prayer of, madam,

Your obliged friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXLIX.

Dear Mrs. T. *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 12, 1741.

MUST I pray for you in the language of *Martha* and *Mary*, ſaying, "LORD, ſhe whom thou loveſt is ſick!" Or hath he who touched *Peter*'s wife's mother, rebuked the illneſs that was coming upon you, when I ſaw you laſt, and cauſed it to leave you? But, however the LORD has dealt with you, I hope he hath been glorified in and by you. I heard he had by his word and ſpirit ſpoken to your ſoul, and given you ſatisfaction, that he had loved you with an everlaſting love. I rejoice in it from my ſoul. The LORD increaſe your comforts daily, and ſhew you all his glory. Dear Mrs. *T*——, think often of your departed ſiſter. Follow her as ſhe did CHRIST; and then ſhortly, where ſhe is you ſhall be alſo. O the happineſs ſhe now enjoys! It is too dazzling for mortal eyes. I want to leap my ſeventy years, and fly away to GOD. Well, it will not be long. Dear Mrs. *T*——, let us patiently tarry till our change come. Our LORD will carry us ſafe through time, and waft us triumphantly into eternity. The love of CHRIST conſtrained me to write theſe lines; accept them for his ſake, from

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCL.

To Mr. H——, at Port-Royal, South-Carolina.

Dear Mr. H. *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 16. 1741.

THE love of CHRIST conſtrains me to write you a line, though as yet no further than the weſtern iſlands. I truſt the LORD hath called you by name, and enabled you to ſay "Speak LORD, for thy ſervant heareth." Who knows but he may call you yet further, even to miniſter before him? Whether it be ſo or not, make it your daily ſtudy to prepare your heart to ſerve the LORD in any ſtation. To be a door-keeper in the houſe of GOD, is a glorious poſt. Surely, you and I may ſing of mercy and electing love. How often have we acted a part for the devil? The remembrance of it is grievous unto me. Let us both now labour daily to act a part for GOD. He heaps kindneſſes on me every hour. We have hitherto had a wonderful pleaſant paſſage. I hope it is in ſome meaſure owing to your prayers. Let this encourage you to pray again. Our GOD is a GOD hearing prayer. I write now, leſt exceſs of buſineſs ſhould prevent my writing in *England*. The LORD is girding me for the battle, and ſtrengthening me mightily in the inner man. "O give thanks unto the LORD of all Lords, becauſe his mercy endureth for ever." You will not fail writing to

Your affectionate friend, brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLI.

To the Reverend Mr. C——, in Charles-Town.

My dear Brother, *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 17, 1741.

THE LORD hath been with me, and is now with me in an eſpecial manner. I have been enabled to prepare nine diſcourſes for the preſs. My body waxes ſtronger, and laſt night the great GOD in a glorious manner filled and overſhadowed my ſoul. I am panting after the compleat holineſs of JESUS my LORD. I have various ſcenes of action lying before me, and am waiting upon the LORD my GOD for direction. He aſſures me that he will be with me. He ſaith unto me, "Fear not, ſpeak out, no one ſhall ſet upon thee to hurt

thee." Dear Mr. *C*——, GOD's goodneſs quite ſurprizes me. I cannot expreſs myſelf better, than in a ſtanza or two of *Erſkine* in his Paraphraſe upon *Solomon*'s ſong.

I.

What wonders LORD *doſt thou perform,*
That ſtoopeſt thus ſo low,
To put thy beauty on a worm,
And then commend it ſo.

II.

What, doſt thou praiſe a native black?
I bluſh to find it true;
O lend me words to render back
The praiſe to whom 'tis due.

I hope my love will find acceptance with all your flock who know me, and who love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity. I have often comforted myſelf and companions with this ſaying, "Now Mr. *C*——— and our other friends are praying for us." At the receipt of this, turn your prayers into praiſes, and then turn your praiſes again into prayers, in behalf of, dear Mr. *C*——,

Your affectionate brother and fellow-labourer
in CHRIST JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CLII.

To Mr. H. B.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 16, 1741.

My dear brother in CHRIST,

BEFORE this is brought to your hands, I ſuppoſe you will have been arraigned before the Chief Juſtice. I am perſuaded our LORD will plead on your behalf, and ſtrengthen you with his mighty power in the inner man. The greater progreſs you make in the divine life, the more you will diſcover of the enmity that is in the ſeed of the ſerpent. It bruiſed our maſter's heel; it will alſo bruiſe ours. Here is our comfort, GOD who cannot lie, hath told us, that "we ſhall bruiſe his head." In the ſtrength of this promiſe, I can give men and devils the challenge. Whole legions are ready to beſet

me. By the help of my GOD, I ſhall triumph over all. —I hope we ſhall grow in grace before we meet again. You and I have weak crazy tabernacles; I hope you rejoice in the proſpect of putting them off ſhortly; bleſſed be GOD, I do.—Dear Sir, get acquainted more and more with electing love; ſtudy the covenant of redemption, and ſee how GOD loved you with an everlaſting love. This will cauſe you to glory only in the LORD, and to paſs through the valley of the ſhadow of death, with a full aſſurance of faith; knowing that CHRIST hath engaged to lodge you ſafe in eternal glory. Thither your dear wife is gone before us; I often think of, I could almoſt ſay envy her; but perhaps that is wrong. Yet a little while, and our precious LORD ſhall take both you, and

Your affectionate friend, brother,
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCLIII.

To Mr. B———, at Port-Royal.

Dear Mr. B. *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 16. 1741.

I Hope you will never forget that day, hour, or moment, wherein GOD met you at *Savannah*. If you have in ſome meaſure, do ſo no more. "Awake thou that ſleepeſt, and CHRIST ſhall give thee light." Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. No man can ſerve two maſters. Uſe the world, but let it be as though you uſed it not. The faſhion of this world will ſoon, very ſoon, fade away. Dear Mr. *B*——, I am perſuaded, will not be offended at this plain dealing. He knows I love him. GOD knows it alſo. With much affection, I ſubſcribe myſelf

Your friend and ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER CCLIV.

To Mrs. B.

Dear Mrs. B. *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 16, 1741.

WHEN you read that JESUS loved *Lazarus*, *Mary*, and their ſiſter *Martha*, do you not make a particular application

plication to your own family? I think our LORD has been equally kind to your houſhold. Walk as becometh members of the houſhold of faith. I hope you have had full ſatisfaction about your ſtate, and know aſſuredly that CHRIST is your Saviour. If not, be not diſcouraged; go on; the way of duty, is the way of ſafety. By-and-by your ſoul ſhall magnify the LORD, and your ſpirit rejoice in GOD your Saviour. This is the hearty deſire of, dear Mrs. *B*——,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLV.

To Mr. J—— B——.

Dear Mr. B——, On board the Minerva, Feb. 16. 1741.

YOUR name, *Jonathan*, puts me in mind of a good old teſtament worthy. Follow him in his faith, and dare to ſcale the wall of the *Philiſtines*. Be not afraid, though already bound over as a *libeller*; ſhortly you ſhall ſhine in the kingdom of your Father; I ſay, your Father; for GOD is your GOD, and will be your guide and guard unto death. Does not this aſtoniſh you? Do not you feel your heart melt? Are you not ready to cry out, "Why me, LORD?" The oftener you repeat ſuch language the better. I love to ſee a ſoul lie in the duſt under a ſenſe of electing love; you and yours have been highly favoured. May GOD give you all grace to walk worthy of the holy vocation wherewith you are called. I write this out of the fulneſs of my heart. Though not preſent, yet I fain would converſe with you. O that I may ſee you grown in grace! Remember me to your wife. The LORD be with you both: He hath been, he is now with me. You are often upon my heart. GOD reward you for your kindneſs to the Orphans. Do not ſlack your hands towards them. Our bountiful maſter will richly reward you. Go on ſteadily in the uſe of, but do not truſt in ordinances. You know what I mean. Be ſteady and bold, yet meek and catholic in your converſation and practice; and if GOD hath influenced you by my miniſtry, give him the glory, and for CHRIST's ſake pray for

Your affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCLVI.

To Mr. B——, in Charles-Town.

Dear Mr. B. *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 16, 1741.

I Think of you often, indeed I do. I long to hear that complete ſalvation is come to your ſoul. I ſay complete ſalvation, for my dear friend knows that reformation is not converſion. O that you may experience a life hid with CHRIST in GOD! Some who ſeemingly put their hands to the plough, have already ſhamefully looked back; will Mr. *B.* alſo go away? Methinks I hear him ſay, "Whether ſhall I go? JESUS CHRIST alone hath the words of eternal life." True, JESUS alone is the way, the truth and the life; flee, flee to him, my dear friend; with arms he ſtands ready to embrace, and will ſave you to the uttermoſt. Remember, my friend, the vows of the LORD are upon you. Theſe hands reached out to you the ſacred ſymbols of his precious body and blood. Theſe eyes ſaw you eat and drink of his bread and his wine. O do not betray, but manfully ſtand up for the LORD JESUS. You was once bold for ſatan, be now bold for your CHRIST. His love excites me to write to, and pray for you. Your wife alſo I intreat the LORD to bleſs, together with your children. My friends join me in hearty wiſhes for your welfare. I am, dear Mr. *B*——,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLVII.

To the Rev. Mr. D——, at Edinburgh.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 16, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

IF I miſtake not, Mr. *M.* informed me, that you was entered into the miniſtry; I pray GOD to enable you to make full proof of it. O dear Sir, how holy ought we to be, who are called to ſtand before the LORD.—When I conſider the greatneſs of the office and my own unworthineſs, I am ſometimes quite abaſhed. This promiſe, "Lo I am with you always," is my daily ſupport. Bleſſed be GOD, I find it fulfilled in my

ſoul. A great work is begun in *America*, at *Georgia*, *South-Carolina*, *New-York*, *Philadelphia*, and *New-England*. GOD has confirmed the word by ſpiritual miracles and ſigns. You will ſee what I have wrote to dear Mr. *T*——. Your aſſiſtance in reſpect to the Orphan-houſe will be very acceptable. I am ſeveral hundreds of pounds in debt on that account. The GOD whom I ſerve is able to diſcharge it. You have heard of the liberality of the *New-England* people; dear Mr. *D*—— GOD's goodneſs aſtoniſhes me. What! can I think any thing too much to do, or to ſuffer for ſo dear a Maſter? I was lately bound over at *Charles-Town* in *South-Carolina*, for libelling the clergy. The *libel*, falſely ſo called, I ſhall ſoon ſend you after my arrival. Thus oppoſition is coming on gradually: pray that the LORD may cover me with all his armour. I am a weak defenceleſs creature in myſelf; JESUS alone is my ſtrength and my Redeemer. I write this on board, that you may know, you are not forgotten; no, tho' I never ſaw you in the fleſh, you are much beloved by, dear Sir,

Your affectionate brother and fellow-labourer
in our dear LORD's vineyard,
G. W.

LETTER CCLVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. T——, at Ediſto.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 17, 1741.

Dear Mr. T.

PROVIDENCE prevented my coming to ſee you at *Ediſto*, — however, I muſt not omit writing to you now. How is it with your heart? I hope you are not *nimis uxorius*; take heed, my dear *B*—, take heed. Time is ſhort. It remains that thoſe who have wives, be as tho' they had none. Let nothing intercept, or interrupt your communion with the bridegroom of the church. I hope you do not feel ſuch damps of ſoul, as you uſed to complain of. May the LORD of glory diſpel every black cloud, and cauſe you continually to rejoice in his ſalvation. You have ſtrong paſſions. The LORD JESUS is ſtronger: In his ſtrength may you ſubdue them, till you are meek

meek as a lamb, and are become a very little child. I write thus, becauſe I pray for you moſt heartily.—Deal with me in the ſame manner; and now, dear brother, farewel. The LORD be with you. He is pleaſed to refreſh my ſoul, and give me the proſpect of a ſhort paſſage. I commend myſelf and affairs to the prayers of your flock, and I earneſtly recommend you to the GOD of all grace. That he may bleſs you and give you an inheritance among all them that are ſanctified, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Mr. *T.*——,

Your affectionate brother and fellow-labourer in the LORD,

G. W.

LETTER CCLIX.

To Mrs. B——, in Charles-Town.

Dear Mrs. B. *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 17, 1741.

I Am much obliged to you many ways. The LORD reward you a thouſand-fold. Your prayers are heard. GOD is carrying us upon the wings of the wind. The angel of the covenant accompanies us in the way. The preſent ſeaſon is a time of refreſhing to my ſoul. I hope it will be a profitable voyage. I think I ſee more into the wickedneſs of my own heart, and the unſearchable riches of the LORD JESUS, who hath redeemed me by his precious blood. I believe you can ſay ſo: Why do you ſhake your head? Woman, why doubteſt thou? Has not the LORD viſited your ſoul? Have you not heard him ſay in his word, applied by his ſpirit, "I have loved thee with an everlaſting love?" And do you think GOD would tell you ſo, if it was not ſo? Away therefore with all deſponding fears; come boldly, with a full aſſurance of faith, and draw water plentifully out of the wells of ſalvation. O that all were comforted, as I am now comforted of GOD. I would not eat my ſpiritual morſels alone. I hope, a letter from you will acquaint me, how good the LORD has been to your ſoul. I have no greater joy, than to hear that my chriſtian friends walk in the truth. The LORD be with you. Remember me to your father and ſiſters. That you all may be true members of the houſhold of faith, prays

Your affectionate brother and ſervant

G. W.

LETTER CCLX.

To Mr. B. and his wife at Bethesda.

Dear brother B——, On board the Minerva, Feb. 17, 1741.

WHEN I left *Charles-Town*, the LORD seemed to give me a full assurance, that we should have a speedy passage.——We have hitherto had scarce any contrary winds, and are now very near the Western Islands. We had one storm the first week, but almost ever since have been favoured with weather as well as wind. O that you would call the family together, and praise the LORD for the mercies conferred on us the unworthiest of the sons of men! I do not know that I have failed praying for you one day, since I have been out. I long to hear what the LORD hath done for your souls. What say you? Do you live in love? Do you strive together with me in your prayers? Are any of the Orphan Lambs bleating after their great Shepherd? Is your mouth opened? Is your heart enlarged? Is your soul swallowed up in GOD? Does *Bethesda* answer its name? Is it, indeed, an house of mercy? These questions, I hope to have answer'd in the affirmative. If you ask, how it is with my soul? Blessed be GOD, I can reply, "Very well." The LORD gives me a feeling possession of himself. I have been enabled to compose *nine discourses* for the press. GOD willing, you shall hear from me often. I write this, that I may be ready, if I should hear of any ship coming your way immediately upon my arrival; receive it as a token of my love, which GOD knows is unfeigned, from

Your affectionate brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXI.

To Mr. J. B——, Charles-Town.

Dear Mr. B——, On board the Minerva, Feb. 17, 1741.

I Think I owe you a letter; I believe you love me in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I hope our love is reciprocal. How can it be otherwise with those, who have drank of the same spirit? I long for that happy time, when we shall be swallowed up in the vision and full fruition of the glorious Godhead.

Godhead. The bunch of grapes makes me long to eat of the full clusters in the heavenly Canaan. The first-fruits make me pant after the full harvest. Perhaps you may go and partake of it first, and drink new wine before me in the kingdom of our Father; I hope I shall not stay long after you, if not called before. My soul is sick of love. Nothing can satisfy it, but the full sight and enjoyment of Christ. He now visits my soul, and causes it mightily to rejoice in his salvation. How lovingly he hath dealt with me in other respects, letters sent to other friends can best inform you. Haste, read, hear, and join with them in giving thanks and praying for

Your affectionate friend and brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXII.

To Mrs. S——, in Charles-Town.

Dear Mrs. S——, On board the Minerva, Feb. 17, 1741.

MY soul is now in an heavenly frame, swallowed up in GOD, and melted down by the love of my dear LORD JESUS. It is almost too big to speak. I will give it vent by writing to you. Our master hath been exceeding gracious, and has shewn me several tokens for good, which I desired of him in secret prayer. Last night, I think I received as full satisfaction as I could desire, in respect to *my marriage*. I believe what I have done, is of GOD; tho' I know not when my heart was more disengaged from earthly thoughts than now. I only desire, that the dear JESUS may be glorified in me, whether it be by life or by death. I depend on your sending me a particular account of affairs at *Charles-Town*. I have wrote to many; you will hear how my letters are received. I shall be glad to hear how it is with your own soul. I beseech you to live near to CHRIST, and to keep up a holy walk with GOD. Be inward with GOD in your duties. Trust and hang on GOD, even when he hides himself from you. He will be your guide unto death. Hunger and thirst daily after the righteousness of CHRIST. Be content with no degree of sanctification. Be always crying out, "LORD, let me know more of myself and of thee; O let me receive grace for grace of thy dear Son."

This, at preſent, is the full deſire of my ſoul. I am perſuaded the LORD will ſatisfy it. GOD is love; we cannot think too highly of him; we cannot expect too great things to be done by him. His right hand, I believe, will bring mighty things to paſs. I am now entering on a ſcene of trials. The LORD hath ſent me on the ſeas to prepare me for them. Not that I depend on any ſtock of grace already received. I would look to CHRIST continually. But whither am I running? I forget myſelf. I almoſt fancy, I am talking with you. I have only room to acquaint you, that dear *J*—— *S*—— ſits by me, and cordially ſalutes you, with

Your affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXIII.

To the Rev. Mr. S——, Charles-Town.

Rev. and dear Sir, *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 17, 1741.

YOU have been very kind to me in many reſpects; but I have been ungrateful to you, and infinitely more ſo to my gracious GOD. I have not failed frequently to bemoan my unworthineſs. Since I have been on board, the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping, and now fills my ſoul with all peace and joy in believing. I have been much aſſiſted in compoſing ſermons for the preſs. At preſent my ſoul is cloſely adverting to GOD, who, I believe, will bring me ſafe to glory. My bodily ſtrength is much renewed. In ſhort, I am comforted on every ſide. Dear Sir, praiſe the LORD in my behalf. O let us magnify his name together. I hope you feel what it is to have fellowſhip with the Father and the Son, and experience the influences of the Holy Ghoſt, in delivering your bleſſed maſter's meſſage. I ſalute Mr. *P*—— and your whole church. My requeſt is, "Brethren, pray and give thanks for us."—When you write to *New-England*, pray remember me to all friends in the kindeſt manner. That country, and the people, lie very near my heart. I hope to be favoured with a line from you ere I return from *England*. Great perils there await me; but JESUS CHRIST will ſend his angel, and roll away every ſtone of difficulty. In his ſtrength alone

is my truſt, and for his ſake and in his name, I ſubſcribe myſelf, reverend and dear Sir,

Your affectionate brother and fellow-labourer in the LORD,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXIV.

To Mr. J—— H——, at Bethesda.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 18, 1741.

My dear Friend and Brother,

YESTERDAY we humbled ourſelves before GOD, and by prayer and faſting ſought for a bleſſing, and direction in all our affairs. I wiſh I had kept family faſts at *Savannah*. Suppoſe you had one monthly at *Bethesda?* You will ſee, by dear Brother *B*——'s letter, the frame of my mind. Since that, I have been a little in the valley, but the LORD is my comforter. I hope I grow in grace, and in the knowledge of myſelf, and the LORD JESUS CHRIST. My heart is much united to Meſſrs. *W*——*s*, tho' we differ in ſome particulars. May GOD make us of one mind, as well as heart. I ſhall make all poſſible haſte back, and remit money to you as often as I can. Mr. *P*—— tells me, his brother is to ſend you upwards of a hundred pounds, and I ſuppoſe other ſupplies will be ſent from the *Northward*. I have alſo wrote to *Charles-Town*. I am perſuaded GOD will not let you want. I would not have any thing left undone, that is neceſſary for the family's comfortable ſubſiſtence. The LORD is our Shepherd, therefore we ſhall not lack. I ſhall long to hear how the bleſſed JESUS deals with you. He is wonderfully gracious unto me, and hath made this voyage profitable to my ſoul. O my friend, my friend, the LORD be with you. My love is firm to you at the bottom, tho' ſometimes it hath ebbed and flowed; in heaven it will not be ſo. On earth it is needful it ſhould; otherwiſe, how ſhould we learn to ceaſe from man? But I am a worm and no man, and deſerve to be the outcaſt of all people. My eyes are now ready to guſh out with water. O the ſovereign love of CHRIST in chuſing me! My dear friend, let us ſtudy to be holy even as he is holy, and walk even as he alſo walked. Let theſe be your daily queſtions, "Am I more like CHRIST?

Am I more meek and patient? Does my practice correspond with my knowledge, and am I a light to enlighten and enflame all that are around me?" I could say more, but I think to write again when I get on shore. GOD bless you and yours. I suppose you have heard that Mr. *P*—— sails with

Your affectionate friend, brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXV.

To Mr. S—— W——, at Bristol.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 20, 1741.

AND does my friend *W*—— look again towards GOD? Never did the Father with greater joy receive the returning prodigal, than I shall embrace you in these unworthy arms, if you are alive to GOD. I trust your late tepidity will now make you more fervent in spirit. I pray GOD to give you a settlement in CHRIST, that you may be rooted and grounded in love. My brother, the captain, gave me a particular account of your soul. I hope he will yet appear for GOD; will you also appear with him? Why should you strive to please a pleasure-taking world? Why should you keep in league with the apparent enemies of GOD? But no more of this. Let old things pass away, let all things become new. I believe GOD suffered you to fall, because you thought more highly of yourself than you ought to think. My love to all. I feel a great union of soul with Mr. *W*——; we differ in principles, but I hope the LORD will make us of one mind. You must not be surprized, if I publish an answer to Mr. *John W*——'s sermon, entitled, *Free Grace*. It is wrote in much love and meekness. Adieu for the present. Give thanks on my behalf. The LORD hath dealt wonderously kind with, dear Mr. *W*——,

Yours eternally in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCLXVI.

To Mr. T—— S——, in London.

My dear Brother, *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 20, 1741.

I Have kept your letter by me till now, that I might anſwer it on my voyage. It ſpeaks the language of a perplexed heart, and plainly ſhews me, that ſatan loves to keep us in bondage. My dear Brother, I think you have done wrong in holding your peace. I am ſure you once felt that freedom of ſoul, which you are a ſtranger to now. The way of duty is the way of ſafety. Whatever you may ſay to the contrary, unleſs you will give the lie to your own experiences, you muſt confeſs, that you have indeed taſted of the good word of life. You ſhould, therefore, have went forwards, and not have turned back again, and thereby plunged yourſelf into darkneſs; darkneſs that may be felt. Alas, you have too eagerly embraced principles (I fear) contrary to the goſpel of CHRIST. You are aiming at a falſe voluntary humility, and are returning back to the fleſh pots of *Egypt*. I know my words will have but little force with ſome, but I muſt deliver my ſoul. GOD was once pleaſed to work upon you by my miniſtry, and therefore I am more ſolicitous for your welfare. I know the advice you would give me is, "*be ſtill.*" I hope I am, ſo far as really to know the LORD; but yet *I will ſtrive*, yet will I walk in all the ordinances of GOD, and go on from ſtrength to ſtrength till I come to appear before him in his heavenly Zion. I write this, out of the fulneſs of my heart. Indeed I love you, and the brethren; I am willing to be the ſervant of you all. I am leſs than the leaſt. However, I dare not embrace tenets that are not agreeable to the form of ſound words. Let me ſee you as ſoon as may be after my arrival, and in the mean while accept of hearty love, from

Your affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCLXVII.

To Mrs. A. D.

My dear Sister, *On board the Minerva, Feb.* 20, 1741.

MY conscience almost reproaches me, that I have not wrote to you often, nor full enough; accept this as an acknowledgement of my fault. I am sorry for it. We are now about a thousand miles off *England.* I hope this will provoke you to send me a letter immediately after my arrival. I find *Luther*'s observation to be true: "Times of reformation are times of confusion;" as yet the churches in *America* are quiet, but I expect a sifting time ere long. My family in *Georgia* was once sadly shaken, but now, blessed be GOD, it is settled, and, I hope, established in the doctrines of grace. Your name is precious among them. I wish you would send them a long letter. Your book on *walking with* GOD has been blessed to one Mr. *B*——, and others in *South-Carolina.* It hath also been serviceable to a dear friend now with me, as also to myself. I cannot well tell you what great things are doing abroad. I have a scene of sufferings lying before me; I expect shortly to cry out with the spouse, "Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me, my mother's children were angry with me." My LORD's command, now, I believe, is, "Take the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines; for our vines have tender grapes."—Help me by your prayers. It is an ease thus to unbosom one's self to a friend, and an instance of my confidence in you. O, my dear Sister, I am less than the least of all saints, I am the chief of sinners, and yet JESUS loves me, and sheds his love abroad in my heart abundantly by the Holy Ghost. I have been much assisted in composing some gospel sermons, which I intend for the press. I have sought the LORD by prayer and fasting, and he assures me, that he will be with me. Whom then should I fear? Hitherto we have had an extraordinary passage, praise the LORD. Herewith I send you a letter from one of the children which GOD has given me: He will rejoice to receive a line from you. If possible, I hope, tho' you are in the decline of life, to see you face to face before

fore I leave *England*. I ſhould be glad to hear how you are as to worldly circumſtances; if I can help you in any degree, freely command

Your affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXVIII.

To T—— K——, at London.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 20, 1741.

My dear Brother K——,

I Received your kind letter at *Savannah*, and though I hope to ſee you face to face ſoon after you receive this, yet love to your dear ſoul conſtrains me to write you an anſwer before I come on ſhore.

I find, ſince my departure, the brethren have fallen into errors. Dear Brother *K*—— will not be offended, if I ſay, "He, I fear, is one of them;" for his letter bewrayeth him. My dear Brother, you ſay, "You have been ſtriving a long, long while, but to very little purpoſe, &c." By this, I ſuppoſe, you have left off the means, and fallen into *ſtillneſs*; expecting now, that JESUS CHRIST will ſo work upon your heart, that you ſhall not feel the leaſt ſtirring of indwelling corruption in your ſoul; in ſhort, that you ſhall be completely perfect: This was pretty near my caſe about ſix years ago, and now I ſee why GOD ſuffered me thus to be tempted, "that I might be more capable of ſuccouring my brethren, now they are tempted." My dear Brother, let us reaſon together. "You have been ſtriving (you ſay) a long while, but to very little purpoſe." And what then? muſt you be therefore ſtill, and ſtrive no more? GOD forbid: No, you are yet to wait at the pool. "Conſtantly attend on ordinances;" and who knows but by-and-by the loving Saviour may paſs by and viſit your ſoul. Have you not, in ſome degree at leaſt, felt his divine power in the uſe of the means? Why ſhould not that encourage you to expect more in the ſame way? But you ſay, "I find all that is of ſelf is ſin." And do you expect ever to do any thing, or to offer up to GOD one ſacrifice, without a mixture of ſin in it? If you do, indeed you are building a *ſpiritual Babel*. My dear Brother, even our moſt holy thoughts are tinctured

tinctured with sin, and want the atonement of the Mediator; and therefore, if you leave off striving, because "whatever is of self is sin," you must never attempt to do any duty whatsoever again. Your stillness hath as much a mixture of self in it, as your striving, and if you proceed in this manner, you must become a professed *Quietist*. Six weeks did satan keep me under this delusion, but the LORD helped me in the hour of extremity: May he also help my dear Brother *K——!* Another error you seem to be fallen into is, "that a man cannot be a christian, at least that he is a very weak one, so long as he finds corruption stirring in his heart." If I was to urge the seventh to the *Romans*, you would say, St. *Paul* only speaks of a man under first-awakenings, and not of a converted man; but my dear Brother, did you ever know a man, that was not really converted, delight in the law of GOD after the inner man? And yet such an one the Apostle speaks of in the latter part of that chapter. Be not deceived, we are to be holy as CHRIST is holy; we are to receive grace for grace; every grace that is in the blessed JESUS, is to be transplanted into our hearts; we are to be delivered from the power, but not from the indwelling and being of sin in this life. *Hereafter*, we are to be presented blameless, without spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing. If you labour after any other perfection here, you will labour in vain. St. *Paul* had attained no other, when he wrote to the *Philippians*, and to the other churches: But my dear Brother *K*——— seems to think, "I did wrong in writing to Mr. *H*——— to know his sentiments upon several texts of scripture, and in sending for several of *Calvin*'s books." And why, my dear Brother, was this wrong? Why you say, "you think it is contrary to St. *Paul* in his Epistles, when he says, he would not speak other men's words;" but St. *Paul* says no such thing: The place you aim at, I believe, is 2 *Cor.* x. 16. "And not to boast in another man's line, of things made ready to our hand." My dear Brother, examine the context, and you will find the Apostle means no more than that he would not enter into other men's labours, as ver. 15. He would not preach where churches were already settled, but go where the gospel had not been delivered. This, and this only, is the meaning of the passage, which dear mistaken Mr.

K——— has wrongly quoted. My dear Brother, did not St. *Paul* bid *Timothy* to give himself to reading? What, if the Holy Spirit is to lead us into all truth, does not the Holy Spirit make use of, and lead us by the means? Has he not indited the scriptures? Has he not helped holy men to explain those scriptures? And why may I not, in a due subordination to the Holy Spirit, make use of those men's writings? Has not my dear Brother *K*—— bought sermons? And why then does "He make use of other men's words?" O, my dear brother, you are in the wilderness; GOD bring you safe out of it.

I suppose, because the Dissenters oppose some of your new principles, you term them enemies; but, my dear Brother, though there are many Christless talkers, and hypocritical formalists among the Dissenters, as no doubt there are some such in the purest church under heaven; yet many of them hold and practice the truth as it is in JESUS. But I have done. Count me not your enemy, because I tell you the truth. I expect that great numbers will look shy on me, for thus opposing what I think to be error. Thus the *Galatians* treated St. *Paul*; but I must be tried every way. I could add a thousand kind things, but I hope you shortly will have a personal interview with

Your affectionate brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXIX.

To Mrs. J—— F——, in Charles-Town.

On board the Minerva, Feb. 25, 1741.

My very dear Friend,

I Know you will rejoice at the receipt of this: You have abundant reason; the LORD hath been wonderous kind. We are now flying on the wings of the wind, and if it continues, we hope to be at *Cowes* the beginning of next week. Your kind presents were of great service to my crazy body. The woman passenger has been serviceable in making us bread; and in short, GOD has wonderfully ordered all things for our great conveniency and comfort. O that my dear friends at *Charles-Town*, may hereby be excited to thankfulness on our behalf.

behalf. I have frequently prayed for you both with my friends, and when in secret before the LORD. Indeed you are seldom out of mind. Dear Mrs. *F*——, I believe GOD sent you to invite me to your house, and I believe the LORD will plentifully reward both of you, for all your works of faith and labours of love. I think henceforward I must call you *Mary*, and your husband, I hope, will be truly stiled *James* the servant of the LORD. I trust you will both serve the LORD CHRIST, and give yourselves up to the guidance of his blessed word and providences day by day. It is a glorious privilege to be led by the spirit of GOD. I think I have felt, and do feel, at this time, his sacred influences upon my soul. My body is but weak, though better by much than when I left *Charles-Town*; however, my soul hath confidence in GOD. The archers will shoot sorely at me that I may fall; but GOD will cause my bow to abide in strength, and my arms shall be strengthened by the hands of the mighty GOD of *Jacob*. I need not ask for a continuance of your prayers, nor you for mine. I hope we shall be always present with each other in spirit, at the throne of grace. My dear friend, adieu: All with me salute you. Write often to

Your unworthy guest, but truly affectionate servant, friend, and brother in the LORD,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXX.

To Mrs. F——, *in Charles-Town.*

On board the Minerva, Feb. 25, 1741.

I Hope dear Mrs. *F*—— will not be offended with these few lines; they are written with a sincere desire to promote your welfare. I want to see you entirely *dead to the world*, and alive to GOD. You have been often convinced under the word; may it sink deep into your heart. GOD, by the late fire, hath shewn you the vanity of all things here below; henceforward set your affections on things above. You are old, and at the head of a great family; you have sealed your promise to lead a holy life, more than once, by receiving the symbols of the blessed body and blood of CHRIST.

Henceforth

Henceforth let no profane delight
Divide your consecrated soul;
But give it CHRIST, *who has the right,*
As Lord and Master of the whole.

Be not ashamed to own you have vowed never to dance again: Dear Mrs. *F*——, fear not contempt. What is it? only a little breath. Rest not in duties; rest not in outward partial reformation.—He that is in CHRIST, is a new creature. That old things may pass away, and all things become new in your heart, is the hearty prayer of, Madam,

Your sincere friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXI.

To the Rev. Mr. C——, *in Boston.*

On board the Minerva, Feb. 26, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

ACCEPT a few lines from one, who desires feelingly to stile himself, less than the least of all. I hope you received my packet from *Charles-Town:* What happened to me there, was only an earnest of future trials. GOD hath blessed the reading of the prophecy of the prophet *Jeremiah* to my soul; as also the history of *Joseph*, and hath let me see more into the covenant of redemption between the Father and the Son: I am more and more in love with the *good old Puritans*; I am pleased at the thoughts of sitting down hereafter with the venerable *Cotton*, *Norton*, *Elliot*, and that great cloud of witnesses, which first crossed the Western ocean for the sake of the gospel, and faith once delivered to the saints. At present, my soul is so filled, that I can scarce proceed. Dear Sir, GOD is with me of a truth; he now gives me a feeling possession of himself: I bless his holy name for sending me to sea; it is profitable both for soul and body. I find the Psalmist's words to be true, "The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him." O that I may walk humbly with my GOD! The language of my soul is this:

Correct

Correct me when I go astray,
And lead me in thy perfect way.

And now, dear Mr. *C*——, I have in some measure unbosomed my heart. What shall I say more? Pray for me both in public and private; give thanks, as well as pray, especially for the mercies of this voyage. Dear Sir, adieu till I come on shore, which I hope will be very speedily, being now in soundings; then you shall hear again, GOD willing, from

Your truly affectionate friend, brother, and servant,
G. W.

LETTER CCLXXII.

To Mr. J—— H——.

My dear Sir, *London, March* 25, 1741.

I Wrote to you immediately on my coming on shore. We arrived at *Falmouth* last *Wednesday* was sevennight, and got here the *Sunday* following.—Blessed be GOD, we had a summer's passage. Many of our friends, I find, are sadly divided, and, as far as I am able to judge, have been sadly misled. Congregations at *Moorfields*, and *Kennington Common*, on *Sunday*, were as large as usual.—On the following week days, quite contrary: Twenty thousand dwindled down to two or three hundred. It has been a trying time with me. A large orphan family, consisting of near a hundred, to be maintained, about four thousand miles off, without the least fund, and in the dearest part of his Majesty's dominions; also, above a thousand pounds in debt for them, and not worth twenty pounds in the world of my own, and threatened to be arrested for three hundred and fifty pounds, drawn for in favour of the Orphan-house, by my late dear deceased friend and fellow-traveller Mr. *S*——. My Bookseller, who, I believe, has got some *hundreds* by me, being drawn away by the *M*——*ns*, refuses to print for me; and many, very many of my spiritual children, who, at my last departure from *England*, would have plucked out their own eyes to have given to me, are so prejudiced by the dear Messrs. *W.*'s dressing up the doctrine of Election in such horrible colours, that they will neither hear, see, nor

give

give me the leaſt aſſiſtance: Yea, ſome of them ſend threatening letters, that GOD will ſpeedily deſtroy me. As for the people of the world, they are ſo imbittered by my *injudicious*, and *too ſevere expreſſions* againſt Archbiſhop *Tillotſon*, and the Author of the old *Duty of Man*, that they fly from me as from a viper; and what is moſt cutting of all, I am now conſtrained, on account of our differing in principles, publicly to ſeparate from my dear, dear old friends Meſſrs. *J*— and *C*—— *W*——*y*, whom I ſtill love as my own ſoul: But, through infinite mercy, I am enabled to ſtrengthen myſelf in the LORD my GOD. I am caſt down but not deſtroyed, perplexed but not in deſpair. A few days ago, in reading *Beza*'s *Life of Calvin*, theſe words were much preſſed upon me, "*Calvin* is turned out of *Geneva*, but, behold a new church ariſes!"—JESUS, the ever loving, altogether lovely JESUS, pities and comforts me. My friends are erecting a place, which I have called a *Tabernacle*, for morning's expoſition. I have not, nor can I as yet, make any collections; but let us not fear.—Our heavenly Father, with whom the fatherleſs find mercy, will yet provide; let us only ſeek firſt the kingdom of GOD, and his righteouſneſs, and all other neceſſary things ſhall be added unto us. In about a fortnight, though I ſcarce know an oak from a hickery, or one kind of land from another, I am ſubpœna'd to appear before parliament, to give an account of the condition of the province of *Georgia*, when I left it. This, I ſuppoſe, is occaſioned by the party, which hath been ſo inveterate againſt the honourable the truſtees, whom they accuſe of miſemploying the public monies. The event, which undoubtedly will be in favour of the truſt, you may know hereafter. In the mean while, believe me to be

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXIII.

To Mr. J—— C——.

My very dear Brother, *London, March* 25, 1741.

HASTEN hither with all ſpeed, and then we ſhall ſee what GOD intends to do for and by us. It is a trying time now in the church.—The LORD give us a due mixture

of the lamb and lion. Some that have been led aſtray, begin to recover. The LORD make way for his own truths. My love to the *Colliers*, and all friends. Many, I ſuppoſe, will be ſhy. I am become a monſter even to ſeveral who were wrought upon by my miniſtry; but it muſt needs be that offences ſhould come: otherwiſe, how ſhould I learn to ceaſe from man? Adieu; excuſe brevity—Haſten, and ſpeak face to face with

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXIV.

To Mr. H——.

My very dear Friend, *London, April* 10, 1741.

I Ordered Mr. *H*—— to ſend you ſome ſermons and accounts, ſome time ago: I ſuppoſe he has done it. I have been at the Parliament-houſe; the *Georgia* affair was adjourned. The gentlemen ſeemed apprehenſive that my account of the colony, would have too much weight. It was ſomewhat of a trial to be in the Houſe. I then remembered what the Apoſtle ſaid, "We are become a ſpectacle to men and to angels." My appeal will come to nothing, I believe. I have waited upon the Speaker; he received me kindly. I cannot yet determine when I ſhall ſee you. If you fear, I hope you will pray for me. The LORD bleſſes my miniſtry. Salute dear Mrs. *H*——: I will write to her next; but you two are one. The LORD be with you both. At preſent I am weak in body, and therefore muſt beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXV.

To Mr. S—— M——, at London.

My dear Friend and Brother, *Briſtol, April* 27, 1741.

ON *Tueſday, April* 22d, I left *London*, and preached on *Wedneſday* and *Thurſday* morning at *Newbury*, to large congregations. On *Friday* evening I preached at *Briſtol*, and have continued to do ſo twice every day to great and affected auditories.

auditories. I received your kind letter, and thank you for it. I rejoice in the good news from *New-England*. Laſt night, I rejoiced much in ſeeing a ſoul wonderfully exult in GOD, juſt at the borders of death. Great manifeſtations of the divine preſence have attended my ſermons. "Praiſe the LORD O my ſoul! I am glad to find Mr. *S*—— goes on well. Pray give my love to brother *G*——. My body is ſometimes weak, but my ſoul rejoices in GOD my Saviour. I know not, whether I ſhall come ſo ſoon as propoſed to *London*. I find it neceſſary, through the increaſe of awakened ſouls, to get a ſociety-room built adjoining to our new tabernacle. I pray GOD to fill it with his glory, and beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Mr. *M*——,

Your affectionate friend, brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXVI.

To Mr. H—— H——.

My dear Brother, *Briſtol, April* 28, 1741.

BLESSED be GOD for knitting us together in love. May it continue, and increaſe till conſummated in eternity! The LORD JESUS direct you. It is now a trying time with the church. Our LORD is now chiefly wounded in the houſe of his friends. The LORD keep us both from a party ſpirit on one hand, and from too much raſhneſs and poſitiveneſs on the other. I ſpeak thus, becauſe you ſeem offended that ſome affirm, "That there is no ſuch thing as dominion over indwelling ſin, nor reſt from working for life wholly." Now this is certainly true in one ſenſe. We ſhall never have ſuch a dominion over indwelling ſin, as entirely to be delivered from the ſtirring of it; and the greateſt ſaint cannot be aſſured, but ſome time or other for his humiliation, or puniſhment for unfaithfulneſs, GOD may permit it to break out into ſome actual breach of his law, and in a groſs way too. Let us not be high-minded, but fear. It is equally true, that we ſhall not reſt wholly from working for life. For whilſt there is any part of us unregenerate, that part will be always leading us to the old covenant. *Luther* often complained of the propenſity of his heart this way. If we know ourſelves, we ſhall find it to be ſo with us; but I ſuppoſe you have been

tinctured with the doctrine of *sinless perfection*. No wonder therefore you write thus. May GOD give you a right judgment in all things, and enable you rightly to divide the word of truth! As for *assurance*, I cannot but think, all who are truly converted must know that there was a time in which they closed with CHRIST: But then, as so many have died only with an humble hope, and have been even under doubts and fears, though they could not but be looked upon as christians; I am less positive than once I was, lest haply I should condemn some of GOD's dear children. The farther we go in the spiritual life, the more cool and rational shall we be, and yet more truly zealous. I speak this by experience. Dear brother *H*—— will not be angry with me. I hope, and believe, you pray for me. The LORD JESUS carries me on. Many have been convinced at *London*. I preach here twice daily, to large congregations, with great power. The LORD, I believe, will yet bring mighty things to pass. I am, dear *H*——,

Your most affectionate brother
in our dear LORD JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CCLXXVII.

To the Rev. Mr. S——.

Rev. and dear Sir, *Bristol, May* 1, 1741.

I Am glad to hear by brother *M*——, that the LORD is with you. May you increase with all the increase of GOD. The more we do, the more we may do for the dear LORD JESUS. He strengthens me here mightily.—I am enabled to speak here with great power, rather greater than when at *London*. My congregations are as large as usual, and they go refreshed away. This is the LORD's doings; may all that is within us praise his holy name! Exhort the dear *London* people to pray for us. The LORD be with you all. Dear Sir, pray for

Your affectionate brother and unworthy
fellow-labourer in our LORD,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCLXXVIII.

To Mr. S———, at Worceſter.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Glouceſter, May* 5, 1741.

WITH this, I ſend you my anſwer to brother *Weſley*'s ſermon, and my account of the Orphan-houſe. I have ſeen your letter to Mr. *N*——, and thank you for eſpouſing the cauſe of a poor deſpiſed miniſter of JESUS CHRIST. I hope as I make advances in the ſpiritual life, I ſhall ſhow my zeal more and more tempered with true chriſtian knowledge and prudence. I would willingly have none of my wild fire mingled with the ſacred fire that comes down from GOD's altar. I deſire not only to do things for GOD, but to do them in the beſt manner. I am a poor unworthy ſinner, and yet, (O ſovereign grace!) the LORD works by me day by day. At *Briſtol*, error is in a great meaſure put a ſtop to. The LORD manifeſted himſelf in the great congregation there, and doth likewiſe here. Laſt night, we ſaw and felt his power. I have had the pleaſure of ſeeing dear Mr. *P*——, and I long for that time when I ſhall ſee you, Reverend Sir, and all the choſen of GOD in the kingdom of heaven. But I deſire to wait till my change ſhall come. Dear Sir, be pleaſed to pray for me. I have prayed for you often. I am a weak ſinful worm. As ſuch pray remember, Reverend Sir,

Your affectionate though unworthy brother
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCLXXIX.

To Mr. Wm. W——, at Edinburgh,

Dear Sir, *Briſtol, May* 16, 1741.

I Received both your kind letters, and with this ſend you my hearty thanks for them. I alſo thank you for your kind invitation of me to *Scotland*. GOD only knows when I can come.—All I can ſay at preſent is, I will come when the LORD permits. Sad tares have been ſown here. It will require ſome time to pluck them up. The doctrines of the goſpel are ſadly run down, and moſt monſtrous errors propagated. They aſſert, "That the very in-being of ſin muſt be taken out of us, or otherwiſe we are not new creatures." O dear

Sir, exhort all to pray for me, that I may be faithful to my LORD, and yet kept gentle in my temper. At present, our dear LORD causes me to triumph in every place. His gospel gets ground, and his power is manifested among us day by day. The fields are white, every where ready unto harvest. Our LORD I trust will gather his wheat into his heavenly garners. My kind respects attend Mr. *M*—— and Mr. *D*——. Had I time I would write a long letter to each. But I am interrupted. However, I am glad to snatch a few moments to beg a continuance of your prayers for a poor unworthy worm, and to assure you that I am, dear Sir,

Your affectionate brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXX.

To Mr. E—— E——, at Sterling.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Bristol, May* 16, 1741.

I Owe you much love. Only want of time, prevents my writing to you oftner. This morning I received a kind lettter from your brother *Ralph*, who thinks it best for me wholly to join the associate presbytery, if it should please GOD to send me into *Scotland*. This I cannot altogether come into. I come only as an occasional preacher, to preach the simple gospel to all that are willing to hear me, of whatever denomination. It will be wrong in me to join in a reformation as to church government, any further than I have light given me from above. If I am quite neuter as to that in my preaching, I cannot see how it can hinder or retard any design you may have on foot. My business seems to be, to evangelize, to be a Presbyter at large. When I shall be sent into your parts I know not. I write this, that there may not be the least misunderstanding between us. I love and honour the associate Presbytery in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. With this I send them my due respects, and most humbly beg their prayers. But let them not be offended, if in all things I cannot immediately fall in with them. Let them leave me to GOD. Whatever light he is pleased to give me, I hope I shall be faithful to it. Our dear and precious master still carries me on. GOD enables me to fight my way through. The gospel

doctrines,

doctrines, I believe, will yet prevail. I feel a divine power attending my miniſtrations. I preach twice daily, and am invited to many places. I believe the LORD intends to keep me on this ſide the water for ſome time. Bleſſed be GOD, all places are alike to me. O dear Sir, pray for me.—I am a poor unworthy worm. I love you tenderly, but am almoſt aſhamed to ſubſcribe myſelf

Your brother in the beſt of bonds,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXXI.

To D—— A——, in London.

Briſtol, May 16, 1741.

I Am glad to receive a line once again from dear brother *A——*. I rejoice that GOD lets you ſee more and more into the corruptions of your heart. The more perfect you are, the more will you ſee and bewail your imperfections in thought, word, and deed; the more will you be made to ſing, "In the LORD alone, and not in myſelf, have I compleat righteouſneſs and ſtrength." The doctrine of electing love, is precious to my ſoul. I am enabled to ſpeak of it feelingly to others. My ſoul is kept in peace and ſweetneſs. Our LORD's cauſe needs not noiſe and raſhneſs. I deſire that none of my wild-fire may be mixed with the pure fire of holy zeal coming from GOD's altar. I think it my duty to wait, to go on ſimply in preaching the everlaſting goſpel, and I believe we ſhall yet ſee the ſalvation of GOD. Methinks, the cloud begins to break off your mind; I pray GOD to keep you from extremes. Brother *H*—— is more and more enlightned; but withal, more and more quickened every day. He finds there is no ſuch thing as *ſinleſs* perfection, and yet is preſſing after holineſs of heart and life rather more than ever. May GOD make my dear brother *A*—— thus minded! For indeed I love him in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. We have had frequently ſweet communion with GOD, and one another. I ſhould have rejoiced to have converſed with you at *Briſtol*. This is my comfort, yet a little while and we ſhall converſe in the kingdom of heaven, for ever and ever. My ſoul is waiting for this ſalvation. I know not when I ſhall go to *Axminſter*.

When I do, you shall have timely notice. GOD blesses my ministry, wherever he sends me. I am invited to fresh places daily. Dear Mr. *A*——, I, even worthless I, subscribe myself,

Yours most affectionately in the loving JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CCLXXXII.

To Mr. I—— C——.

Dear Brother C——, *Bristol, May* 18, 1741.

I Received your letter this morning, and am just setting out for *Wiltshire*. The LORD hath been much with us. Yesterday I preached three times. At every sermon, a sweet melting was observed in the congregation. Last night I gave your sister the sacrament; she is recovering. I afterwards, administered the sacrament at Mr. *T*——'s, and had a love feast. JESUS was in the midst of us. I know not but I may come towards *London* next week. I wonder not at your heaviness. —Before every increase of your work, you must expect some trials. Humblings are necessary for your spirit, and mine. I return my love to all. I must away. Brother *H*—— rejoices in spirit, and joins with me, who am,

Ever yours in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCLXXXIII.

To the Rev. Mr. J.

My dear Brother, *Bristol, May* 23, 1741.

I Bless GOD for making any thing of mine useful to your soul. May the blessed JESUS breathe upon you day by day, and make you eminently useful to the church of GOD. I think you write with a kind of prophetic spirit. The LORD only knows how he will be pleased to dispose of me. Great afflictions I am sure of having, and a sudden death, blessed be GOD, will not be terrible. I know that my redeemer liveth. I every day long to see him, that I may be free from the remainder of sin, and enjoy him without interruption for evermore. I desire patiently to wait, till my blessed change shall come.

come. The LORD hath been with me here. There is a great awakening in *Wiltſhire*, and the work is moſt wonderfully carried on in *New-England*. I hope to ſend you a letter, ſhortly, that will rejoice your heart. I leave *Briſtol*, and go through *Wiltſhire* to *London* next *Monday*.—I then purpoſe going to *Staffordſhire*, and then through *Wales* to *Scotland*. A wider door than ever is opened for preaching the everlaſting goſpel. I have now only time to beg your prayers, and to aſſure you that I am

Your moſt affectionate though weak and unworthy
brother and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER. CCLXXXIV.

To Mr. I—— R——, at Philadelphia.

Dear I——, *Briſtol, May* 23, 1741.

I Rejoice to find, that you ſee, feel, and bewail, the plague of your heart. May the LORD ſhew it you more and more! It will excite your love to the dear LORD JESUS more fervently.—I return my love to your ſiſter. I thought ere now ſhe had been with JESUS. I believe, ſhe has the grace of GOD in truth, and therefore our LORD will make her conqueror over all. I am glad to hear of the ſucceſs of the goſpel in *Boſton*. It is a gathering time there, but a winnowing time with us here. All is ordered for the good of the church, by CHRIST JESUS: Let us, my dear brother, keep cloſe to him in this and every trying time. We ſhall find but few, very few, true followers of the Lamb of GOD. May you and I be in the happy number! GOD is pleaſed to give ſucceſs to the word preached. Though I am oppoſed much, JESUS is my ſtrength. The LORD will enable me to fight his battles. My love to *Peggy*, and all that love JESUS. Forget not to pray for

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCLXXXV.

To Mr. T——.

Dear Sir, *Briſtol, May* 23, 1741.

I Am glad to receive a letter from you. I was fearful, leſt I had done ſomething to offend you. I thank you and the other gentlemen for their kind invitation of me to *Scotland.* I believe it will be near three months before I can ſee *Edinburgh.* On *Monday* I ſet out for *London:* then I purpoſe, GOD willing, to go into *Eſſex*, and then to return through *Briſtol* and *Wales* in my way to you. I intreat all the brethren to pray for me, that I may come in the fulneſs of the bleſſing of the goſpel of CHRIST. I am a poor, weak, unworthy worm. GOD hath been with me here, and in *Glouceſterſhire.* In *Wiltſhire* there is a great awakening. Abroad in *New-England* the work goes on wonderfully. O dear Sir, never was ſuch a weak wretch ſent on ſuch an important errand. I have many trials of various kinds. JESUS ſupports me; JESUS makes me more than conqueror. He is a dear and a tender maſter. Dear Sir, help me to praiſe him. I will write to all the gentlemen that wrote to me, if I can any way redeem time. In the mean while, be pleaſed to remember me to them in the kindeſt manner, and believe me to be

Your affectionate though unworthy brother
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCLXXXVI.

To Mr. J—— H——, at Savannah.

London, June 1, 1741.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

I Received a ſhort letter from you, but it was dated in *January* laſt.—I have ſent ſeveral to *Georgia*, and lately alſo a parcel of things for the children. GOD appears much in our congregations. We ſeldom or never have a dry meeting. As to outward things, I never was more embarraſſed; but my conſolations are equivalent. Praiſe the LORD, O my ſoul! I am apprehenſive of no oppoſition from the government. I have waited

waited on the Speaker. He treated me kindly, and assured me that there would be no persecution in this king's reign: they know I am loyal from principle, but I believe I shall yet be greatly humbled. The story of *Joseph* in the prison, and *David* in his troubles before he came to the throne, has been much and comfortably pressed upon my soul. I hope you enjoy peace! May the LORD bless you and the whole household. I am sometimes enabled to pray with great faith for you all. The LORD will yet provide. I am to preach thrice to day. It is now past five in the morning. I am going to the tabernacle lately erected for a morning lecture. We have sweet meetings, blessed be GOD! In the bowels of our common JESUS, I subscribe myself

Yours eternally,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXXVII.

To Mr. I. C——, at Bristol.

London, June 3, 1741.

I Have enjoyed the especial presence of GOD ever since I came to *London*. I preach three times daily. The LORD is remarkably with me. Congregations increase. I am going to have a society-room joined to the tabernacle. The LORD is really on our side.—O let us be meek and quiet! O let us wait, and we shall see the salvation of GOD. I preach daily at *Deptford*. Our dear master helps me to preach and pray with great power. Your ministry hath been blessed. Let us both give all the glory to everlasting Love. Salute the dear brethren. Remember me most kindly to all in *Wine-street*.

Ever yours in the blessed JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXXVIII.

To Mr. R—— E——.

Reverend and dear Sir, *London, June* 4, 1741.

I Have now a little time to myself. I must improve it and answer your kind letter. Blessed be GOD, for enabling me

me to write any thing, that may be of ſervice to his church, and of comfort to your ſoul. Glory be to our dear and common LORD, his cauſe here ſucceeds. Truth gets ground. The LORD ſtrengthens me mightily. His power is manifeſted in our congregations. Converſion work is going on apace among us. I am not yet determined, about the exact time of coming to *Scotland:* but I believe, I ſhall be with you in about three months. I can't but think the aſſociate preſbytery, are a little too hard upon me. If I am neuter as to the parcular reformation of church government till I have further light, it will be enough. I come ſimply to preach the goſpel, and to be received only as an occaſional itinerant preacher by all, and not to enter into any particular connection whatever. The LORD, I hope, will order my goings in his ways. I deſire to hear frequently from you. I have need of your prayers. My trials are great, my comforts far greater. I am a poor worm, and yet JESUS delights to honour me. We are likely to have ſettled ſocieties in ſeveral places. JESUS rides on from conquering to conquer. I am, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your unworthy fellow-labourer and affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCLXXXIX.

My Brother H—— H——, *London, June 6,* 1741.

I Do aſſure you, that my heart is as your heart. I am quite ſick of *Chriſtleſs conſenters.* They talk, and that is all. I (like you) am heartily deſpiſed by moſt of them. I am reſolved to open againſt their luke-warmneſs, and worldly-mindedneſs. May GOD open my mouth wide when I come to *Wales.* Outward enemies are now more quiet. Enemies within the church, carnal profeſſors, and ſelf-righteous Phariſees, moſt try us. Let us not fear, JESUS CHRIST will give us the victory over all. GOD mightily ſtrengthens me. Our congregations are very large and ſolemn. I never had greater freedom in preaching. GOD enables me to caſt all my care upon him, with a full aſſurance that he careth for me. You need not fear my believing any reports to your diſadvantage. I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I was not in the leaſt offended, when

B——

B—— H—— wrote me word that "you thought in some things I did not act as a *little child*." The more open you are with me the better. If nature and pride rise in my heart, I will go to JESUS, abhor myself, and pray for my dear reprovers. All that I can say is, that I desire to be *a very little child*. All things are possible with JESUS CHRIST. He is wonderfully kind to me. Truth, I believe, will prevail. I want to see you face to face. Satan does not love that CHRIST's ministers should come together. I wish you could come up immediately, and stay at *London* whilst I am in the country: or rather go and preach at *B——l*, *Gloucester*, and *Wiltshire*, for about a fortnight, and then come up to *London*. This, I believe, will be best. About that time, GOD willing, I shall return from *Essex*, and then we can consult what is best to be done for the cause of our dear master. O JESUS is love! I am glad to hear brother *Rowl—d* is with you. Go on in the strength of our dear LORD, and you shall see satan like lightning fall from heaven. Times are not yet dark enough for the dawning of a thorough reformation. At even-tide GOD speaks. My love to all that follow JESUS CHRIST with an unfeigned simplicity. May the LORD hide your precious soul under the shadow of his almighty wings! Cease not to pray for

Yours eternally in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCXC.

To the Rev. Mr. D——, at Dedham in Essex.

Rev. and dear Sir, *London, June* 6, 1741.

MULTIPLICITY of business has prevented my answering your kind letter. However, I have often borne you upon my heart before the LORD. Your case, methinks, is somewhat like that man of GOD, *J. Bunyan*'s. He was often so depressed with a sense of sin in the pulpit, that he has been tempted to hold his peace. This has been my case also both in public and in private. I find the best way is to press forward, and to look up to JESUS CHRIST. He is faithful to his promises. I write but short, having but little time, and because I hope soon to see you in *Essex*. I pray GOD to clear up your evidences, and give you no rest till he fills you with a full

full assurance of faith. Our LORD rides on triumphantly here. He enables me to go on from conquering to conquer. I am a poor weak unworthy worm. As such, be pleased to remember, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your unworthy brother and fellow-labourer in the gospel,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCI.

To Mrs. R———.

Dear Mrs. R. *London, June* 6, 1741.

I Have been much hindred in answering your letter. Perhaps you have expected too much comfort from man. That comfort is alone lasting, which comes from GOD. I know not your experiences, and therefore cannot so well judge of your case: however, I would have you press forward, and labour after a full assurance of faith. Judge not yourself by others joys and comforts. Look not too much upon the happiness you think others may enjoy. This may lead you to repine and murmur against GOD. Look to yourself, and to CHRIST. Remember, you deserve nothing, and therefore he does you no wrong. Remember also, that he is full of love, and therefore in his own due time will manifest himself to your soul. That you may patiently tarry the LORD's leisure, and be blessed with abundance of peace, is the hearty prayer of, dear Mrs. *R*——,

Your affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCII.

To Mr. K———.

Dear Sir, *London, June* 8, 1741.

I Like your last letter best. There is one thing you still lack, "to be convinced of unbelief." By faith, and not by works, are you to be justified in the sight of GOD. Make use of the means. You must take care that you do not rest in them. You must not think any thing you can do, will in the least recommend you to the favour of GOD; and yet you must strive, as if you were to be saved by your striving. The only

cauſe of our acceptance with GOD lies at the feet of ſovereign mercy, through CHRIST. Entreat the LORD to give you faith, and who knows but he may have mercy upon you. Remember you are a poor ſinner, and deſerve nothing. That GOD may reveal his dear Son in you, is the hearty prayer of

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCIII.

To Mr. J—— C——, at Kingswood.

My dear Brother, *London, June* 8, 1741.

HOW ſweetly does providence order all things for us! Juſt before yours came, I was reſolved to ſend you 20 *l.* to begin the ſociety-room at *Kingſwood*. Mrs. *C*—— gives it, and I believe will make it up fifty. This gentlewoman hath been made happily inſtrumental in relieving me out of my late diſtreſs. You know how I was threatened to be arreſted, ſoon after my arrival, for above three hundred pounds, due on account of the Orphan-houſe in *Georgia*, and I do not know but a writ was actually taken out. This drove me to my knees. GOD gave me to wreſtle, with ſtrong cryings and many tears, both before and after I went to reſt—I could plead with him that it was not for myſelf but his poor. The example of *Profeſſor Frank* encouraged me to pray, tho' I found he ventured only week by week; but my ſituation in ſuch a foreign climate conſtrained me to run upon larger arrears.—GOD was pleaſed to give me an anſwer of peace. Having as I thought a full aſſurance of immediate help from ſome quarter or another, I went to ſleep moſt comfortably. Early the next morning a friend came to me to enquire, if I knew where a gentlewoman of his acquaintance might put out three or four hundred pounds. I replied, let her lend it to me, and in a few months, GOD willing, ſhe ſhall have it again.—Upon being acquainted with my circumſtances, ſhe moſt chearfully ſent me the ſum I wanted, and thus my enemies were diſappointed of their hope. Praiſe the LORD, O my ſoul!—But to return. I would have you lay the foundation immediately, but take care of building too large or too handſome. Notwithſtanding my

preſent

preſent embarraſſments, who knows, but it may be in my power to diſcharge my Orphan-houſe debt, and make collections here for *Kingſwood-ſchool* too? When I could get no aſſiſtance at all from my old friends and ſpiritual (prejudiced) children, and was almoſt quite pennyleſs, and left to ſit alone like a ſparrow upon the houſe-top, a ſerious perſon, whom I never ſaw or heared of, came the other day and put a guinea into my hand. At receiving it, ſomething as it were ſaid to me, "Cannot that GOD who ſent this perſon to give thee this guinea, make it up fifteen hundred?" As I told a friend immediately, to whom I ran down, ſo I ſhall tell you; I doubt not but this will be the caſe. My debt is all for GOD, and contracted in providing for the fatherleſs and widow. As to the work here, though perhaps I may be blamed by ſome for venturing ſo far, bleſſed be GOD, it goes on ſweetly. All things happen for the furtherance of the goſpel. I have wrote brother *S*—— to let you have twenty pounds.

Yours eternally in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCIV.

To the Rev. Mr. S——, at Charles-Town.

Rev. and dear Sir, *London, June* 9, 1741.

I Wrote you a few lines lately from *Briſtol*. Since that, I have had the pleaſure of receiving a letter from you; for which I thank you heartily. What Mr. *P*—— brings with him, will inform you how affairs ſtand here. Bleſſed be GOD, the word runs and is glorified. The heat of the battle is now, I hope, pretty well over. GOD is pleaſed to give me great power, and to ſtrengthen me both in body and ſoul. Our congregations are large and awful. We generally ſee and feel much of the divine preſence in the ſanctuary. Many are pricked to the heart. I have three truly experienced young men that joined me. Affairs being ſomewhat ſettled here, I am going a long journey of ſeveral months, thro' ſeveral counties in *England*, *Wales*, and *Scotland*. The door was never opened wider for my preaching the everlaſting goſpel. I am glad to hear by Mrs. *S*——, &c. of your faithfulneſs to our common LORD.—O, dear Sir, what are we that we are called

out to speak in his great name! Let us never fear suffering for owning his eternal truths.—The witnesses cannot be slain 'till they have finished their testimony. At present here is no great fear of opposition from the men in power; tho' I hear the House of Lords intend to give a hearing to my appeal. However it be, I am easy. The LORD JESUS over-rules every thing for the good of his church. I suppose I cannot come over to you 'till about next Spring. In the mean while, tho' absent in body, I am present with you in spirit, and am, reverend and dear Sir,

Your very affectionate, but unknown brother
and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCV.

To Mr. J—— P——, in Georgia.

Dear brother P——, *London, June 9, 1741.*

I Am sorry to hear you are still in darkness. Let the little light you have, make you hold up your head, and think not of changing your station without a proper call. We are apt to place our happiness in places, and often think we do not please GOD, because we do not please ourselves. But I find the fault is in the heart, not the place. Wait, therefore, my dear brother, still patiently upon the LORD. Who knows, but by and by JESUS CHRIST may lift up the light of his blessed countenance upon your soul? Why should you doubt it? My dear brother, CHRIST is love. He tries, but yet supports me; nay, makes me more than conqueror thro' his love. You will hear by other letters, how it goes with the church in *England*. She is shaken, but it is only that she may be the more settled. My love to your wife. I hope you find her an help-meet for you. May the GOD of *Abraham*, *Isaac* and *Jacob*, bless, preserve, and keep you. May you both walk in the comforts of the Holy Ghost, and be edified; and may GOD give you hearts to remember

Your affectionate friend, and brother,
and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCVI.

To the Rev. Mr. F———, at Southampton.

Rev. and dear Sir, *London, June* 13, 1741.

JUST now I received your kind letter, and the generous benefaction of you and your friends for the Orphan-houſe. It came very opportunely, and ſtrengthens my faith in the bleſſed JESUS. I find he will help me by ways I know not. O, dear Sir, the love of GOD to ſuch an unworthy worm quite amazes me. Surely, if I did not ſtand up for free diſtinguiſhing grace, the very ſtones would cry out againſt me. Bleſſed be our glorious *Emmanuel*, the goſpel runs and is glorified. A wonderful power attends the word preached. Every day, I believe, ſome or other are pricked to the heart. I have alſo glad tidings from abroad. In *New-England* there is an extraordinary work of GOD. I hope the dear JESUS will ſet the whole world in a flame. Dear Sir, help me with your prayers. The archers ſhoot ſore at me that I may fall, but the LORD is my helper. I hope my thanks will find acceptance with your other friends, who joined in helping my poor Orphans. Good meaſure preſſed down and running over, may the LORD return into your boſoms. Dear Sir, I pray GOD to make you a flaming fire, and fill you with a holy burning zeal for promoting our dear Redeemer's kingdom. I find but few truly zealous. The love of too, too many is waxed cold. I thank you, dear Sir, for encouraging me, and beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, reverend and dear Sir,

Your affectionate brother in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCVII.

To the Rev. Mr. H——.

Reverend and dear Sir, *London, June* 13, 1741.

I Received your kind letter. You do not know, and therefore think too highly of me. "Leſs than the leaſt of all," ſhall be my motto ſtill. Providence is pleaſed to prevent my leaving *London* on *Monday* next. I muſt neceſſarily defer my journey to *Hertfordſhire* and *Eſſex*, till the *Monday* following.—

I approve

I approve of the circuit you have fixed, but I chuſe to preach at each place twice. Dear Sir, I moſt heartily thank you for promiſing me your aſſiſtance in reſpect to the orphans. I am perſuaded our LORD will be well pleaſed. He gives me great encouragement. We daily feel and ſee his preſence in the great congregation. I hear glorious news from abroad: *New-England* is in a holy flame. O that we at home, may be ſtirred up to ſpend ourſelves, and be ſpent, for the good of ſouls! Dear Sir, pray that ſuch a mind may be given to

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. S——, at Worceſter.

Reverend and dear Sir, *London, June* 13, 1741.

I Thank you heartily for your laſt kind letter: As you are ſo aged and infirm, I take it as an eſpecial favour, that you are pleaſed to write to me. You need make no apology, reverend Sir, for your plain dealing: I love thoſe beſt, who deal moſt ſincerely with me. Whatever errors I have been, or ſhall be guilty of in my miniſtry, I hope the LORD will ſhew me, and give me grace to amend. This is the language of my heart:

Correct me when I go aſtray,
And lead me in the perfect way.

I alſo thank you, dear Sir, for your kind benefaction. My arrears upon the Orphan-houſe are yet large; but I hope ere long the LORD will enable me to pay them all. At preſent, I am kept from doubting. Unworthy as I am, JESUS CHRIST is yet with me, and is pleaſed daily to ſtrengthen me both in ſoul and body. My miniſtry (for ever adored be ſovereign grace) is attended with a continual power. I am ſhortly going a large circuit, perhaps as far as *Scotland*. Dear Sir, let your prayers follow after me.—I am a poor, weak, unworthy worm; as ſuch be pleaſed to remember, reverend and dear Sir,

Your obedient, though unworthy brother and ſervant in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER CCXCIX.

To Mr. J—— C——, at Briſtol.

My dear Brother, *Hertford, July* 1, 1741.

THE LORD has been with me greatly, ever ſince I left *London.*—I have been enabled to preach twice every day, and to ride ſeveral miles. The congregations have been every where very large. GOD's preſence has accompanied the word. People's hearts have been enlarged. Within theſe few days, we have collected near a hundred pounds for the poor orphans. Numbers of ſouls, I believe, are under convictions. In ſome places we have had near ten thouſand hearers. Invitations are ſo preſſing, that I purpoſe going another circuit to *Bedford*, and to preach in the counties round about for near a fortnight, and then return to *London.* I hope the LORD is with you; I am ſomewhat weak in body, but ſweet and comfortable in my ſoul. Dear *J*—— joins with me in love to you and all. Pray for,

Yours in the beſt bonds,

G. W.

LETTER CCC.

To Mr. J—— H——, at Savannah.

Colcheſter, July 12, 1741.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

I Have not heard from you ſince you wrote laſt *January.* I have been a circuit into *Hertfordſhire*, *Eſſex*, *Bedfordſhire*, *Cambridgeſhire*, and *Suffolk.* I have been enabled to preach twice daily, and to ride ſeveral miles. Congregations have been ſurpriſingly large; the word is attended with power, and the alarm in the country rather greater than ever. Contributions ariſe and increaſe. You are all much upon my heart. GOD will yet provide for you. I write this in great haſte. GOD gives me much of his preſence. I am more and more convinced, that evangelizing is my proper buſineſs at preſent. GOD gives me great acceſs every where. The LORD be with

you

you all, Amen and Amen! To the beſt of my knowledge, I have neglected no opportunity of writing. I am

Ever yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER [CCC.]

To Mr. J—— H——, at London.

Coggeſhall, July 13, 1741.

I Received your letter at *Bury*; but cannot think matters are quite ripe, or you duly qualified for ſettling a church. GOD lets me ſee more and more, that I muſt evangelize. I find you are for ſettling: do as GOD ſhall direct, I am eaſy. I only wiſh you may find ſettled perſons to be your aſſiſtants. Without this, a church cannot be rightly ordered. I have no freedom, but in going about to all denominations. I cannot join with any one, ſo as to be fixed in any particular place. Every one hath his proper gift. *Field-preaching* is my plan: In this I am carried as on eagles wings. GOD makes way for me every where. The work of the LORD increaſes. I am comforted night and day. O free grace to ſuch an hell-deſerving ſinner! I pray GOD to give you a right judgment in all things. I am, dear brother *H——*,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCI.

To Mrs. D——, at Granſden.

My dear Siſter, *London, July* 17, 1741.

I Bleſs GOD that I ſaw you at *Granſden*. The LORD was with us, and has been with me the remaining part of my journey. We ſhall yet ſee greater things than theſe. Wonderful things from abroad. The incloſed will ſhew you, how deſirous my family is of correſponding with you. Pray write to my dear little orphans, boys and girls. GOD, I hear, hath been working powerfully upon their hearts. I would have you alſo write to Mr. *J—— B——*, a converted planter; to Mrs. *B——*, his kinſwoman, who has lately received the aſſurance of faith; to Mr. *C——*, a dear baptiſt miniſter; to Mrs.

S——, who is carried on the wings of faith and love; and to my dear Mr. *H*——, who is Superintendant of the Orphan-houſe affairs. You will excuſe this freedom. I am willing your uſefulneſs ſhould be as extenſive as may be. May the LORD bleſs you ever, more and more. I expect to go to *Scotland* ſhortly. A ſhip will ſoon ſail towards *Georgia*. Write ſoon, dear Mrs. *D*——, to

Your affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCII.

To Mr. G—— H——, in Glouceſter.

My dear Friend, *London, July* 18, 1741.

GOD has mightily bleſſed my journey in the country. Thouſands, and ten thouſands, have flocked to hear the word. It was attended with power, and near a hundred and eighty pounds were collected for the Orphan-houſe. I know you will give thanks on my behalf. On *Thurſday* morning, GOD willing, I hope to embark for *Scotland:* I am perſuaded the LORD calls me thither. Invitations, both from the *Seceders*, and others that do not ſecede from the *Kirk*, are very ſtrong. I ſhould be glad of a line next poſt. It is now near eleven at night. I hope my friends will accept my thanks for their kind benefactions to the dear orphans, and with their prayers follow, dear Mr. *H*——,

Ever yours in CHRIST JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CCCIII.

To Mr. B—— S——.

Dear Sir, *Lewiſham, July* 23, 1741.

THOUGH I have but little time, yet I muſt redeem a little to anſwer your kind letter. GOD is doing great things, both at home and abroad. The incloſed will in ſome meaſure inform you. Every day our LORD appears for us in the great congregations. Weak as I am in myſelf, the LORD is my ſtrength. O, dear Sir, I am a worm and no man; I deſerve to be the outcaſt of the people, and yet the LORD delights to honour me. Free, free grace! I long to be above, that

that I may praiſe GOD as I deſire. In about two days I hope to embark for *Scotland*. I will come and viſit you when providence permits. In the mean while, I beg that you will pray that the glorious JESUS would bleſs all my poor endeavours to promote his glory! My love to all that love the dear Emmanuel. In his great name, I ſubſcribe myſelf

Your affectionate brother and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCIV.

To Mr. G—— H———, at Glouceſter.

My very dear Friend, *Lewiſham, July* 23, 1741.

I Thought to have embarked this morning for *Scotland*, but am likely to be detained a day or two. I muſt therefore ſend you a line. Wonderful things is the LORD doing for me. In the country I meet with ſurpriſing ſucceſs. In *London* I ſee ſuch things that I never ſaw in *England* before. A mighty power almoſt continually accompanies the word. The LORD JESUS is pleaſed to ſtrengthen me very much in the inner man. O, my dear friend, give thanks for, and pray that I may walk humbly with my GOD. The LORD be with you and yours. I hope both you and dear Mrs. *H*—— do keep cloſe to GOD. My love to all that love the dear LORD JESUS. GOD willing, you ſhall have a line from *Scotland*. Wonderful news is come from abroad, which will ere long rejoice your heart, and cauſe you to give thanks in behalf of, my dear Mr. *H*——,

Ever yours in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCV.

To Mr. T——, at Colcheſter.

Dear Sir, *Lewiſham, July* 23, 1741.

PROVIDENCE detaining me one day more, I ſnatch a few moments to anſwer your kind letter, and to return Mr. *A*—— thanks for his kind preſent. How good is the bleſſed JESUS to me the chief of ſinners! He takes care both of my body and ſoul. His power has attended me lately, more than ever it did before in *England*. GOD's right hand is bring-

ing mighty things to pass. I earnestly intreat our LORD, that you may live above the world, and be dead to all things here below. Dear Sir, there is nothing like a life of faith. It is a glorious thing to be able to say, "Not I live, but CHRIST liveth in me." Then, are we christians indeed, when we come to live on the invisible realities of another world. This, and this only, is true and undefiled religion. May GOD make you a lively partaker thereof. I hope my kind respects will find acceptance with Messrs. *V*——, *D*——, *J*——, and all friends. Fail not to pray for

Your affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCVI.

To Mr. B———.

My very dear B——, *Greenwich, July* 24, 1741.

TO-MORROW, GOD willing, I embark for *Scotland*, and hope to redeem time abroad to answer my dear lambs letters: They rejoiced me exceedingly. What I have done with yours, the inclosed will shew. Pray be particular in your accounts. Much good has been done by those sent already. You cannot tell how many hearty prayers are put up for you all, daily. May they enter into the ears of the LORD of *Sabaoth!* The work is beginning afresh in *England*. The Holy Ghost descends in a glorious manner, amidst the congregation. Weak, unworthy as I am, JESUS CHRIST works in and by me. O sovereign free grace! I have sent the letter to Mrs. *D*———. I have lately seen her. Her conversation is as weighty as her letters. You will receive more from her, I hope, before it be long. I believe you are where GOD would have you to be. I despair not of seeing your mouth opened remarkably for GOD. O that the dear JESUS may bless you, and the whole houshold! I should rejoice to see you, but GOD, I believe, will detain me here the Winter. Mr. *P*——'s brother is to pay for the use of the Orphan-house seventy-five pounds. Shortly I hope to send you fresh supplies. In the mean while I assure you all, that you are constantly upon my heart. My head pains me; good night. The LORD be with

you

you all. Expect to hear again very ſpeedily from, dear Brother *B*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCVII.

To Mr. I—— *B*——, *at South-Carolina.*

Dear Mr. B——, *Greenwich, July* 24, 1741.

WITH much pleaſure I received your kind letter. Bleſſed be GOD, even the Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, who I truſt hath begotten you, and called you out of darkneſs into his marvellous light. What an honour is it, that we ſhould be counted worthy to ſuffer the leaſt degree of reproach for his great name ſake? I am aſhamed to think how little I do, or ſuffer for him. O free grace! ſovereign and electing love! how ſweet to the ſoul, who really feels the power of it! May we walk worthy of that holy vocation wherewith we are called! I hear your brother is dead; happy ſoul! you and I ſhall go and ſee him by and by. I thank you heartily for your kindneſs to the dear orphans. I am ſure GOD will amply repay you. The LORD be with you and yours. I muſt away to the ſhip bound for *Scotland*. I will anſwer dear Mrs. *B*——'s letter, when I get on board. Adieu. O pray for

Ever yours in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCVIII.

To Mr. I—— *F*——, *at Charles-Town.*

Dear Mr. F——, *Greenwich, July* 24, 1741.

I Rejoice to hear the LORD is carrying on a good work in your ſoul. I hope you will not think all is done, becauſe you have been baptized and received into full communion. I know too too many that "make a CHRIST of their adult baptiſm," and reſt in that, inſtead of the righteouſneſs of the bleſſed JESUS. GOD forbid that you ſhould ſo learn CHRIST. O my dear friend, ſeek after a ſettlement in our dear LORD, ſo that you may experience that life which is hid with CHRIST in GOD. *Dear Mrs. F*——, I thank you heartily for your kind letter. It rejoices my ſoul to hear, that you and

Mr. *F*—— are going on hand in hand to heaven. This is the ſacred end of marriage; to be helpers of each other in the great things of GOD. I am not yet entered into that ſtate. I am looking up to CHRIST, and ſhall wait his direction. The goſpel runs, and is glorified. The work is beginning a freſh in *England*. Never was my preaching attended with ſo great power on this ſide the water. Our LORD pours his comforts into my ſoul, and rejoices me with the glad news I hear from your parts. May you all increaſe and multiply in every good word and work. My moſt tender love to all. As faſt as poſſibly I can, each ſhall hear from, my dear friends,

Ever yours,
G. W.

LETTER CCCIX.

To Mr. H——, at Georgia.

Greenwich, July 24, 1741.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

BEFORE the boat comes to take me down to the ſhip, I would write you a line or two. I greatly rejoice to hear that you live in love. But I ſhall not be ſurpriſed, if, after this remarkable work of the ſpirit, you meet with ſome trials. But fear not: we are all in the Mediator's hands. I find all things work together for my good, and ſo I am ſure you will. My dear friends, I know you ſympathize with me. —Indeed, I alſo do with you. My dear, dear family, you are continually upon my heart. I redeem a moment or two as often as I can to write to you. GOD only knows how I love and long after you in the bowels of the ever-bleſſed JESUS. O may you lean on his boſom, and may his banner over you be love. Adieu! for the preſent. I muſt ſoon away to the ſhip. I have ordered hats and ſhoes for the children, and intend ſending brother *H*——'s order and other things, with ſome caſh, very ſhortly. But the arrears hang on me yet. My LORD bears my burden; may he bear all yours for you! I am perſuaded he will. With great tenderneſs I ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Mr. *H*——,

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy brother
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCX.

To Mrs. S——, at Charles-Town.

In a boat going to Graveſend, July 24, 1741.

Dear Mrs. S——,

I Am now in a boat, in order to embark for *Scotland*. I have the conveniency of writing upon a trunk, and therefore cannot be eaſy without ſending you a line. I rejoice to hear that you are carried upon the wings of love. Methinks I ſee you ſitting under the Redeemer's ſhadow with great delight, and exalting his free grace in plucking you as a brand out of the fire. O when ſhall we go to heaven, that we may praiſe GOD for what he hath done for our poor ſouls! The LORD is better to me than ever. Converſion, and converſion, both in town and country, are beginning again. The divine preſence is much manifeſted in our aſſemblies. Bleſſed be the LORD, who is alſo working with you. The ſpiritual proſperity of the orphan family, rejoices my heart. GOD will ere long, I believe, make a ſeparation between the precious and the vile. Poor Mr. *G*——, Commiſſary *G*——*d*, and Chief Juſtice *W*——, bitter, bitter, though unſucceſsful perſecutors, what will become of you? O that GOD may grant them repentance unto life! What reaſon have you and I, dear Mrs. *S*——, to exalt rich diſtinguiſhing grace! 'Tis that alone hath made the difference. I believe I need not remind you to pray, dear Mrs. *S*——, for

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXI.

To Serjeant B——, at Gibraltar.

On board the Mary and Ann, bound from London to Leith, July 25, 1741.

Dear Mr. B——,

I Am glad to hear that you are yet alive, and what is more, I truſt you are alive to GOD. Perhaps I may never ſee you again on this ſide eternity. O that we may approve ourſelves good ſoldiers of JESUS CHRIST! How bright will our crown be then, at that laſt great day! I find there is nothing like

like being valiant for the truth. JESUS CHRIST is a glorious captain. He makes me more than conqueror through his love. I have seen great things, within these few months. I should have answered you sooner, but could not get time till now: I am embarked for *Scotland*. I hope you take particular care to beat down self-righteousness, and exalt the LORD JESUS alone in your hearts. I find, the only happiness is to lie down as a poor sinner at the feet of the once crucified, but now exalted Lamb of GOD, who died for our sins and rose again for our justification. I rejoice to hear, that some even at *Gibraltar* still dare to own a too too much neglected Saviour. Blessed be GOD, the governor is so favourable to you. This is a great motive to love and thankfulness. The work of GOD still goes on in *England*, and other parts. O for that glorious period, when the whole earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the seas! That our dear LORD may every day reign as king in all your souls, is the prayer of, dear Serjeant,

Your affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXII.

To Miss R———.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 25, 1741.

Dear Miss,

A Few hours ago I came on board. To shew that you are in my mind, I employ some of my first leisure time in answering your letter. The condition you are in now, ought not to make you think that JESUS CHRIST has cast you off, and that it will be presumption in you to believe on him. The LORD is now shewing you, that you are poor, and miserable, and blind, and naked, and such only are the persons that think they want his almighty aid. I fear you look too much into yourself, and from thence are discouraged. Whereas you should look directly to CHRIST, and come to him in all your blood. You will always fly from him, as long as you count him your enemy. But do not think so hardly of him; JESUS is the sinner's friend. O how doth his bowels yearn towards you! Are you made willing to be made whole? CHRIST invites and commands you to come to him; venture then upon him.

If

If you never have believed yet, it is time for you to believe *now*. "LORD, give me faith!" for faith is the free gift of GOD. What if your heart be hard, JESUS can soften it. What if you have yet no marks of your election? surely you dare not say, "You are not elected," or that CHRIST hath not died for you, even for you. It is, indeed, a bad thing to have only notions in the head, and no solid experience in the heart. But it is a good thing to be convinced of this. Bleſſed be GOD, who hath given you to bewail it. Look upon this as a token for good. — Truſt not to means; when they are taken from you, CHRIST can and will work without them. The LORD may bring you help in a way, and at a time you know not of. Your extremity ſhall be GOD's opportunity. If the LORD vouchſafes to bleſs this letter in the leaſt degree to your comfort, it will much rejoice the heart of, dear Miſs,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXIII.

To Mr. J—— H——, at Georgia.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 25, 1741.

My dear Brother,

WITH much pleaſure I have again read over your kind letter. GOD is a GOD hearing prayer. My dear brother *H*—— is awakened out of ſleep. Help me men, help me angels, to praiſe GOD in his behalf! My dear brother, I pray GOD you may never lie down again. CHRIST is now giving you light; walk and rejoice in that light. Keep cloſe, keep cloſe, my dear man, and let nothing ſteal away your poor heart from the bleſſed JESUS. Give it all to him, give it to him, hard, earthly, ſenſual, deviliſh, as it is. He will waſh it in his precious blood. Do not tie him down to any degree of conviction. So that he brings you home, let him do it in that way he ſhall think beſt. What a loving Saviour have you to deal with! You cannot conceive how kind he is, even *to me* every day. I feel and ſee his power more and more. He ſeems to be beginning his work afreſh in *England*, and it gladdens my heart to hear he is among you at *Bethesda*. O do nothing to grieve the bleſſed ſpirit! Let your converſation be

ſuch

ſuch in all things, as becomes the goſpel of the bleſſed JESUS. Have the greateſt regard for the little lambs. Do nothing that may prove a ſtumbling block to their precious ſouls. Warm yourſelf by talking to them. Be not one moment idle. Redeem your precious time; for you know not when your LORD may come. My brother, my heart is full of love to thee.—May you be a beloved phyſician! Beloved of the LORD, beloved of the LORD's people, and a continual comfort to

Your moſt unworthy, though truly affectionate brother, and ſervant in the dear JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXIV.

To Mr. Wm. G——.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 25, 1741.

My dear Brother G——,

YOUR kind letter I have juſt been reading over a ſecond time. It gave me comfort; but the high ſtile extorted a ſmile or two from me. I believe you have been reading over Mrs. *D*——'s letters. You wanted to imitate her way of writing, but fail for want of her experience. It is a good thing not to go out of our depth. Methinks I ſee you look down and bluſh; but look up again immediately to JESUS CHRIST: He knows whereof we are made, and remembers we are but duſt. Indeed I write to my dear man out of much love. Bleſſed be GOD, that all things are carried on with ſuch decency and order. I pray GOD that you may ſo live, that all who come to ſee you may ſay, "Surely GOD is in this place." Your prayers in my behalf are heard. I am quickened, and ſtrengthened mightily both in ſoul and body: controverſial points are ended, and the LORD JESUS CHRIST triumphs glorioufly. I find my heart often drawn towards *Bethesda*. I hope I ſhall yet meet you again in the fleſh, and embrace you one by one in my unworthy arms. In the mean time, I commit you to the boſom of JESUS. May you lean upon his breaſt, and ſit under his ſhadow with great delight! May you be truly ſimple, truly childlike, and every way con-

formable to our great exemplar the ſpotleſs Lamb. I long for that time, when we ſhall ſit down at his marriage ſupper: though I have the loweſt place, it will ſuffice, dear brother *G——*,

Your affectionate brother, friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXV.

To Mr. J—— S——, at Georgia.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 25, 1741.

Dear John,

YOUR caſe puts me in mind of that paſſage, where we are told that our LORD looked upon *Peter*. Surely, he has looked upon and prayed for you, otherwiſe how would Satan have ſifted you? But ſee what comfort another paſſage may afford you, "Go tell my brethren and *Peter*." Poor, weeping, penitent *Peter* muſt in no wiſe be forgotten. "Go tell them that I am riſen." Here are glad tidings of great joy to a diſconſolate ſoul. May GOD apply it to your's in particular. Dear *John*, may you learn from hence to ſtab your dear Saviour no more. I wonder not that you are in darkneſs. GOD will ſurely viſit your offences with a rod, and your backſlidings with ſome ſpiritual ſcourge. That is enough to keep us from ſinning, though we know that his loving-kindneſs he will not utterly take from us, nor ſuffer his truth to fail. How dearly did *David* pay for his ſtolen ſweets? What anguiſh has your poor ſoul felt, ſince I left you. Bleſſed be GOD, that he has awakened you out of ſleep. O free grace! I rejoice, yea and I will rejoice. That you may never provoke GOD to leave you to yourſelf, is the earneſt prayer of, dear *John*,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXVI.

To Rebekah B——, an Orphan at the Orphan-houſe.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 25, 1741.

Dear Bekky,

AND is the LORD ſtill ſtriving with you? O then admire his patience, and give him your whole heart. I had no other end in bringing you to *Betheſda*, but that you might be brought to JESUS. I hope you will yet find it a houſe of mercy to your ſoul. Take heed of reſting in conviction. You know by experience how ſadly it wears off. You may well wonder, that GOD has not ſent you to hell long ago. I pray GOD, that his goodneſs may lead you to repentance, and that you may walk before the LORD in all well-pleaſing, ſo long as you live. What ſweet opportunities do you enjoy! How freely may you go into the woods, and pour out your heart before the dear JESUS. How early was *Samuel* acquainted with the LORD, and why ſhould not you be acquainted with him? Unleſs you are, you can never be at peace. Come then, my dear lamb, and wander no longer; return to the ſhepherd and biſhop of your ſoul. Behold, he ſhed his blood for you, and will carry you to heaven, rejoicing over you to all eternity. Away to him then in all your blood, juſt as you are; and when you are near to GOD, forget not

Your affectionate friend,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXVII.

To Elizabeth G——, an Orphan.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 25, 1741.

Dear Betty,

I Am glad you begin to feel the hardneſs of your heart, and your utter inability to pray. I pray GOD you may in all things ſee your helpleſſneſs, that you may come as a poor helpleſs nothing to JESUS CHRIST, and take him for your all in all. I wonder not that ſatan endeavours to terrify your ſoul. You know how he tore the young child in the Goſpel, whilſt he was coming to JESUS CHRIST. Your convictions at preſent

ſent ſeem to ariſe from a fear of hell; but before you receive this, I hope the LORD JESUS will have ſealed your pardon, and have ſaid, "Be of good cheer, thy ſins are forgiven thee." O *Betty*, why has GOD ſingled you out? Why was you brought to *Betheſda?* Away when you read this, and bleſs GOD for it, and devote yourſelf again and again to that LORD, who has bought you with his precious blood. Having much forgiven you, love much. Lie down in the duſt, and be continually looking to the rock from whence you are hewn. To hear that you, and my dear family, love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity, will much rejoice the heart of

Your ſincere friend,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXVIII.

To Mary A———, an Orphan.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 25, 1741.

Dear Molly,

UPON reading your letter, I put up this prayer, "LORD lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon her ſoul." You once had joy. I found it puffed you up. I pray GOD to humble you by your preſent darkneſs. You may now ſee what a poor wretch you are, how proud, how earthly, how ſenſual, how deviliſh; and yet, ſtupendous love! JESUS CHRIST will ſtill receive you. Your loving Saviour opens his arms, and invites you to throw the whole of your load upon him. I am perſuaded he will receive you: go to him then, and confeſs that you have ſinned. He will receive you; for what ſays the ſcripture? "Look unto me, all ye ends of the earth, and be ye ſaved." Surely *Molly A———* is included here. The dear JESUS is all love. He has brought you to a houſe of mercy. Out of love, keep his commandments, and love all that are around you. Be willing to be the ſervant of all, and from gratitude to GOD ſtudy to be a comfort to

Your ſincere friend in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXIX.

Belcher

To the Honourable J—— B——, Esq;

Hon. Sir, On board the Mary and Ann, July 26, 1741.

WITH much pleasure I received yours by the hands of your son, who offered to do me any service that lay in his power. This, as well as your other past favours, quite surprize, and ought to humble me; for who am I, that I should be thus highly honoured? O sovereign grace! O distinguishing love! If I did not stand up in defence of that, the very stones would cry out against me. Indeed, honoured Sir, your kindness makes me almost to blush, and the love of JESUS quite confounds me. I am lost, I want to sink into nothing whenever I think of CHRIST's dying for me. I really think, I am the most ungrateful sinner that ever was, and yet the Redeemer follows me with his mercies every day. Unspeakable are the trials wherewith I have been visited since my arrival. But out of all the LORD delivers me. I experience daily much of his divine presence; a wider door than ever is opened for preaching the everlasting gospel, and GOD seems to be beginning his work again in *Old-England:* it adds to my joy, to hear what the LORD is doing amongst you. Blessed, for ever blessed be GOD, for causing such a stirring among the dry bones. I pray the glorious Redeemer, to carry on the good work begun, and to make *New-England* the joy of the whole earth. I suppose you have heard, honoured Sir, of the remarkable effusion of the spirit among the children of the orphan-house. Surely, JESUS CHRIST is about to bring mighty things to pass. Whilst the kings of the earth are enlarging their dominions, I trust our LORD will usher in his.—I shall not be surprized, if after this great commotion in *New-England*, I hear that some outward troubles befal them. The removal of you, honoured Sir, from being governor, I take to be no good sign. I hope this has no other effect upon your own heart, than to make you more and more hunger and thirst after that righteousness, which neither men nor devils shall ever be able to take from you. GOD only knows, how often I have prayed, that this affliction may be sanctified unto you. I think, honoured Sir, I cannot forget you and your people.

people. Both are dear, very dear to my soul. I sometimes long to see *Boston* again, that I may rejoice in what great things the LORD has done; but various circumstances concur to detain me on this side the ocean, all the next Winter. I am now in my passage to *Scotland*. What the LORD is pleased to do there, your honour may hear in my next. I rejoice, that I am a little retired from the world, and have the opportunity, honoured Sir, of writing to you. How sweet is retirement when CHRIST is present in the heart? Having him, I find I possess all things. Happy they that can wrap themselves in GOD. May you and yours be thus happy! This will enable you, honoured Sir, to rejoice in tribulation, and give thanks for every thing that does befal you. Tho' the ship is moving, and I am somewhat sick, I know not how to leave off. Indeed, I love and honour you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. That you and yours may be rooted and grounded in his love, and filled with all the fulness of GOD, is the hearty prayer of, honoured Sir,

Your most affectionate, obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXX.

To the Reverend Dr. C——, at Boston.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 26, 1741.

Rev. and dear Sir,

I Had the pleasure of yours, and have taken the freedom to publish part of it, because I thought our LORD's cause might be promoted thereby. Glory be to the ever blessed JESUS, for the great work begun in your province. Glory be to his great name, for raising up instruments to carry it on; especially for working so powerfully among the sons of the prophets. A most promising omen this for dear *New-England*. Reverend Sir, the searcher of hearts only knows, how deeply the welfare of your people is impressed upon my soul. I continually make mention of them in my poor prayers, both public and private, and have not failed to give thanks in their behalf. You seem a little offended, that I did not mention old Mr. *W——s*. It was, because by his conversation I could not find he came up to that character which you gave him. Mr.

S—— I truly value, and lately have had reaſon to think much better of him than formerly, when his experiences to me ſeemed too ſuperficial; but I am a poor, weak, fallible worm, and therefore my judgment is of little worth. I rejoice to hear that the miniſters with you help forward the work of GOD. I find no ſuch enemies to the croſs of CHRIST, as thoſe who keep up the form of religion, and are orthodox in their notions, but are ignorant of an experimental acquaintance with JESUS. However, the work of GOD is beginning afreſh. I have free acceſs every where, and have been upon the full ſtretch preaching to large auditories twice a day, for ſome time paſt. The LORD is pleaſed to ſtrengthen me both in body and ſoul. His preſence fills the aſſemblies, and, I verily believe, we ſhall yet ſee glorious days. I have ſweet accounts from the Orphans. I thank you, dear Sir, for your care concerning them. I have been in great ſtraits; but the dear JESUS helps me through them all. Help me, dear Sir, help me to praiſe him. My tender love awaits both you and your people. I am glad to hear, that my kind hoſteſs is recovered. May the LORD ſtrengthen her mightily, and cauſe her to go down to the grave in peace! I earneſtly deſire a continuance of your own and people's prayers in behalf of, reverend Sir,

Your affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXI.

To John D——, at Boſton.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 26, 1741.

My dear child,

I Thank you for your letter: I neither forgot you nor my promiſe. O that GOD may effectually work upon your heart betimes, for you cannot be good too ſoon, or too good. The little orphans at *Georgia* are crying out, "What ſhall we do to be ſaved?" And I am glad to hear, that this is the language of ſome little ones in *New-England*. If you know any of them, pray give my love to them, and tell them, I pray that JESUS CHRIST may be revealed in their dear hearts. How early was JESUS CHRIST in the Temple, firſt hearing, and then aſking queſtions? How did he love the little children, how did he take them up in his ſacred arms and bleſs them;

them; and when he was juſt aſcending to the higheſt heaven, how tenderly did he ſpeak to *Peter*, and bid him "feed his lambs." Let all this encourage you to come unto him. He will certainly receive you, tho' you have been wicked; nay, he will abundantly pardon you. And what comfort will you enjoy, when you know your ſins are forgiven you? You will then have a heaven upon earth. In expectation of ſeeing you a chriſtian indeed, and grown in grace, I ſubſcribe myſelf

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXII.

To the Honourable J—— W——, at Boſton.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 26, 1741.

Honoured Sir,

PRESUMING it would not be diſagreeable to you, I have taken the liberty to print part of the letter you was ſo kind as to ſend me. Surely it will rejoice the hearts of thouſands, to hear what good things the LORD is doing in theſe parts. It has put much gladneſs into my heart, and cauſed me to give many thanks in behalf of the people of *New-England*. How good is our GOD! When things are a little troubleſome without, he ſends his goſpel to comfort his children within. Surely JESUS CHRIST is about to ſet the world in a flame. He is working powerfully at home; he is working powerfully abroad. I truſt he will continue working, 'till the earth be filled with the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the ſea. I hope you will yet feel more of this light and life in your own heart, before you go hence, and be comforted with the comforts wherewith I am daily comforted of GOD. Dear Sir, JESUS is a precious Maſter. He, as it were, dandles me upon his knees. He carries me in his arms, he fights all my battles, and makes me more than conqueror thro' his love. My work is great, but my ſupports are greater. He aſſures me from day to day, that he will never leave me nor forſake me. My infirmities often make me bluſh, and yet JESUS paſſes them all by. Dear Sir, think often on the love of CHRIST: think of his dying love; that muſt give you comfort. I rejoice at this opportunity of writing

to you. I thank you for your kind caution. I pray GOD to teach me how to improve it. Help me, dear Sir, with your prayers; and accept of these few lines from, honoured Sir,

Your most affectionate brother and servant in CHRIST.

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXIII.

To Mr. E——D——, at Boston.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 26, 1741.

Dear Mr. D——,

I Am to be blamed for not sending you a line. I am an ungrateful creature; ungrateful to my earthly friends, unspeakably more so to the friend of all. Pardon me this once. GOD willing, you shall have no reason to complain of me any more. If you remember, once in my sermon I said, "O that *New-England* was full of new creatures!" I hope the LORD in some measure is going to answer that prayer.—It rejoices my heart, to hear that the gospel runs so swiftly, and is so remarkably glorified amongst you. This is the LORD's doings, and it ought to be marvellous in our eyes. Blessed are the eyes that see the things which we see; blessed are the ears that hear the things which we hear, for many righteous men have desired to see and hear them, and have not. I rejoice also to hear, that there is like to be a church in your house. O, dear Sir, take care that none of you rest, till you have got fast hold of the blessed JESUS. My kind love to dear Mrs. *D*——. May CHRIST's justifying blood be upon you and your children. I return my love to all that are so kind as to remember me. I believe I shall not see you this Winter. The work is very great, and goes on very prosperous in *England*. However, you are all upon my heart, and the more heartily you pray for me, the sooner shall I be restored unto you. I hope I feel the benefit of your dear people's prayers; for GOD comforts and strengthens me daily, and carries me on from conquering to conquer. On shore, I have scarce time to write a line; being now on board, I take this opportunity of returning you my hearty thanks for your kind letter, and of assuring you that I am, dear Mr. *D*——,

Your affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXXIV.

To the Rev. Mr. R——, at Boſton,

On board the Mary and Ann, July 26, 1741.

My dear Brother R——,

HOW glad was I to receive a letter from your hands, having heard nothing of, or from you particularly, ſince we parted. What great things has the LORD ſhewn us ſince that time. Methinks I hear you ſay, "and yet I can tell of greater things." I believe we ſhall ſee far greater yet before we die. The work is beginning afreſh here. I ſometimes think *B—— G——* muſt take a voyage over to *Old-England*. Moſt of our *London* miniſters too much ſhun the croſs, and do not appear boldly for GOD.— Now the LORD hath worked ſo powerfully in your college, I have leſs to ſay againſt your joining with Mr. *W——*. I am glad to hear you ſpeak plainly and cloſely. What comfort will this afford you in a dying hour? Go on, my dear brother, go on; venture daily upon CHRIST, go out in his ſtrength, and he will enable you to do wonders. He is with me more and more. I have been ſweetly carried thro' the heat and burden of every day's labour. JESUS bears all my burdens. JESUS enables me to caſt all my cares upon him. O then let us magnify his name together! I am now going to *Scotland*, knowing not what will befal me. What GOD does, you may expect to hear ſhortly. In the mean while, let us pray for and write to each other. As iron ſharpeneth iron, ſo doth the letters of a man his friend. Your laſt I have printed: GOD's glory called me to it. My dear brother, adieu! Dear Brother *S——* ſits by and ſalutes you. My kind love awaits Mr. *W——*, and all that love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity. In hopes of receiving another letter from you ſhortly, I ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Mr. *R.*

Your very affectionate, tho' very unworthy brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXV.

To the Students, &c. under convictions at the colleges of Cambridge and New-haven,—in New-England and Connecticut.

Dear Gentlemen,

WITH unſpeakable pleaſure have I heard, that there ſeems to be a general concern among you about the things of GOD. It was no ſmall grief to me, that I was obliged to ſay of your college, that "your light was become darkneſs;" yet are ye now become light in the LORD. I heartily thank GOD, even the Father of our glorious Redeemer, for ſending dear Mr. *T*—— among you. What great things may we not now expect to ſee in *New-England*, ſince it has pleaſed GOD to work ſo remarkably among the ſons of the prophets? Now we may expect a reformation indeed, ſince it is beginning at the houſe of GOD. A dead miniſtry will always make a dead people. Whereas, if miniſters are warmed with the love of GOD themſelves, they cannot but be inſtruments of diffuſing that love among others. This, this is the beſt preparation for the work whereunto you are to be called. Learning without piety, will only make you more capable of promoting the kingdom of ſatan. Henceforward, therefore, I hope you will enter into your ſtudies not to get a pariſh, nor to be polite preachers, but to be great ſaints. This, indeed, is the moſt compendious way to true learning: for an underſtanding enlightened by the ſpirit of GOD, is more ſuſceptible of divine truths, and I am certain will prove moſt uſeful to mankind. The more holy you are, the more will GOD delight to honour you. He loves to make uſe of inſtruments, which are like himſelf. I hope the *good old divinity* will now be precious to your ſouls, and you will think it an honour to tread in the ſteps of your pious forefathers. They were acquainted with their own hearts.—They knew what it was to be tempted themſelves, and therefore from their own experience knew how to ſuccour others. O may you follow them, as they followed CHRIST. Then great, very great will be your reward in heaven. I am ſure you can never ſerve a better Maſter than JESUS CHRIST, or be engaged in a higher employ than in calling home ſouls to him. I truſt, dear gentlemen, you will

not

not be offended at me for ſending you theſe few lines. I write out of the fulneſs of my heart. I make mention of you always in my prayers. Forget me not in yours. I am a poor weak worm. I am the chief of ſinners, and yet, O ſtupendous love! the LORD's work ſtill proſpers in my unworthy hands.—Fail not to give thanks, as well as to pray for

Your affectionate brother and ſervant,
in our common LORD,
G. W.

LETTER CCCXXVI.

To Mr. D——, at Boſton.

Dear Sir, *On board the Mary and Ann, July 25, 1741.*

YOUR's as well as other letters, which I received from *Boſton*, gave me no ſmall ſatisfaction. Now, now I live, if poor ſinners are flocking for life to the dear LORD JESUS. How may we ſuppoſe the angels to be rejoicing over *Boſton*, and other places in *New-England!* How glad are they to ſee the lectures frequented as in times of old, and the ſpirit of your good forefathers reviving among you! Sure it muſt be delightful to ſee black and white, young men and maidens, old men and children, praiſing the name of the LORD. Bleſſed be GOD, who in this great awakening hath not paſſed by your houſe. Fear not, dear Sir: Who knows but the bleſſed JESUS may yet viſit you with the light of his bleſſed countenance? I rejoice to hear he has been gracious to your wife and daughter. I pray GOD, you may be all built up in our moſt holy faith, and go on from ſtrength to ſtrength, till you come to appear before the LORD CHRIST in glory. I thank GOD, who hath heard prayer on my behalf. I am ſtrengthened daily both in body and ſoul, and have reaſon to think my miniſtry is bleſſed more and more. Let GOD's goodneſs to me, encourage you to expect great things from our LORD. He is able and willing to do for us more abundantly than we can aſk or think. That you and your dear family may daily drink of his divine pleaſures, as out of a river, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXXVII.

To John R——, an Orphan, at the Orphan-houſe.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 27, 1741.

Dear John,

I Remember you once wanted to go away from *Betheſda.* Adore the free grace and mercy of that GOD, who has kept you there. I truſt, it will prove the ſaving of your precious and immortal ſoul. To ſee oneſelf loſt and condemned by nature, is the firſt ſtep to converſion. I hope before this time you have found yourſelf ſaved by grace: for "by grace alone you are to be ſaved, and that not of yourſelves, it is the gift of GOD." The LORD JESUS hath indeed been knocking at the door of your heart. I truſt, now he will break the door open, and give himſelf admiſſion. Dear *John*, you may well wonder, that the LORD hath not ſent you to hell. I truſt, that you feel you deſerve it. O that GOD may pluck you as a brand out of the burning. This was my only view in bringing you to *Betheſda.* This is the only deſire of the dear friends who have the rule over you; they watch for your ſoul, &c. The devil (as you obſerve) watches to deſtroy it: and, therefore, my dear boy, away to JESUS CHRIST. He can take away the heart of ſtone: he can give you an heart of fleſh. All things are poſſible with Him. That GOD may give you grace to take the kingdom of heaven with a holy violence, is the hearty prayer of, dear *John*,

Your ſincere friend,

G. W.

LETTER CCXXVIII.

To James M——, an Orphan.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 27, 1741.

Dear James,

I Am glad to hear by dear brother *B*——'s letters, that your ſoul has received comfort. I am comforted at the news. May GOD increaſe it daily, 'till your joy be full. I muſt think GOD loves you, and that he has begun a good work in your ſoul. I hope to find at my return that it is carried on, and that you have been preſſing forward towards the mark for the prize of your high calling in CHRIST JESUS your ſaviour.

Dear

Dear *James*, I do not forget you. I hope you never will forget the love of CHRIST, who died and hath given himſelf for you. Does not the very thought of this make you even to weep? Do you not want ſome private place where to vent your heart? Away then, I will detain you no longer. Retire into the woods. Go look to him whom you have pierced, and with a godly ſorrow mourn for your ſins, as a woman for her firſt-born. At the ſame time, forget not to ſigh out a prayer in behalf of, dear *James*,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXIX.

To Thomas Webb, an Orphan.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 27, 1741.

Dear Thomas,

HOW inconſiſtent is the devil! How artfully does he ſtrive to keep poor ſouls from CHRIST! Sometimes he labours to drive poor ſouls into deſpair; ſometimes to preſumption. Theſe are the two rocks, againſt which he would fain have poor ſouls to make ſhipwreck of faith and a good conſcience. I pray God to enable you to ſteer a middle courſe.—May you ſee your miſery, and at the ſame time ſee your remedy in the croſs and wounds of JESUS CHRIST. He calls to all weary heavy laden ſouls; conſequently he calls you. Your coming to him, will be a proof of your election. The devils know nothing of GOD's decrees. If ever he ſhould tempt you ſo again, ſay, "If I do periſh, I will periſh at the feet of CHRIST." He is willing to ſave, to ſave to the uttermoſt. He ſees, he feels your anguiſh. He longs to rejoice over you. Venture therefore upon him. *Thomas*, be not faithleſs, but believing. CHRIST ſhall yet ſhew you his hands and his feet. He is the ſame now, as he was yeſterday, full of love and condeſcenſion to ſelf-condemned ſinners. That you may experience the full power and efficacy of the Redeemer's blood, is the ardent prayer of, dear *Thomas*,

Your ſincere friend,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXXX.

To William B———.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 27, 1741.

I Thought your father had ſent for you from *Betheſda*; but I hope your heavenly Father has kept you there to bring you home to himſelf. Your deadneſs has often grieved me. O that I may have reaſon to ſing, at my return, "*Billy B*—— was dead, but is alive again; he was loſt, but is found." You do well to pray to GOD, to ſearch your heart, and to try your reins; for otherwiſe your treacherous heart will deceive you. I would not have you forget what the LORD is doing for you, for ten thouſand worlds. O defer not repentance to a death-bed. It will be hard to ſtrive with principalities and powers, when you can ſcarce turn in your bed. A man, at that time, can hardly bear up under his bodily infirmities; but a wounded ſpirit who can bear? Reject, therefore, ſuch a horrid temptation, with the utmoſt abhorrence. Be a worker together with GOD; and now GOD is working in you to will and to do, ſee that you work out your own ſalvation with fear and trembling. Do not ſtab your Saviour any more. Dear *Billy*, think on his bitter agony and bloody ſweat, and fly to him, as a Redeemer ready and willing to receive you. That you may be happy in him here, and with him hereafter, is the hearty prayer of

Your ſincere friend,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXXI.

To R—— W———, an Orphan.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 27, 1741.

Dear Richard,

THE contents of your letter pleaſed me. I have ſometimes thought, if God did not convert *Richard W*——, he would be one of the moſt unhappy boys in the world. You have *head-knowledge*; and unleſs you are made to ſee the ſinfulneſs of your heart, it will much increaſe your condemnation. Bleſſed be God, who yet hath patience with you, and ſeems to be ſtriving with your ſoul. I do not wonder that the devil

devil tells you, "it is time to repent when you are a man." You may well say, it is the devil that tells you so: Such a suggestion cannot come from God. Behold, now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation! Jesus will even now accept you, vile as you are, and ungrateful as you have been: if you feel your misery, and fly to him for succour, he will accept you. Every conviction cries, "Come, *Richard*, come to me, that thou mayest have rest." Let me advise you, as old *Eli* advised young *Samuel:* say, "Speak, LORD, for thy servant heareth."

I am your sincere friend,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXXII.

To John F———, an Orphan.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 27, 1741.

Dear John,

I Willingly fulfil your request, and sit down to write you a line or two. I am glad you begin to see the wickedness of your own heart. You cannot conceive what a mystery of iniquity is hid therein. The more you see it, the more you will find the want of a saviour, and adore GOD for giving his dear Son to die for sinners. There was once a young man, named *John*, who leaned on the Saviour's bosom, and was his particular favourite. What if you should be thus highly honoured. Would it not be an amazing instance of love and condescension? And what doth the Saviour do less, for all that feel themselves poor, lost, undone sinners? Nay, does he not do for them infinitely more? Yes, he does. Come to him, therefore, by faith, and he shall embrace you in the arms of his mercy, clothe you with his righteousness, sanctify you by his spirit, guide you by his counsel, and after death receive you up into glory. Look up, then, and never rest till you have it. Conviction is not conversion. But you know who has promised not to quench the smoaking flax, or break the bruised reed. That this promise may be fulfilled in your soul, is the hearty prayer of

Your sincere friend,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXXXIII.

To L—— M———, an Orphan.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 27, 1741.

Dear L—— M———,

AND are little boys and girls, at this and that corner of the wood, crying unto the LORD? I hope you, dear *L———*, are always among them; and may the LORD hear your prayers, when you cry unto him! Surely he will, if you feel yourselves poor sinners. Never did JESUS reject an humble suppliant. "Suffer (says he) little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Dear *L——*, take all possible care to cherish your convictions. God has spoken once, yea twice to you, in an extraordinary manner. You are one of the oldest; you ought to go before the rest, and to encourage them to follow the ever-blessed JESUS. Satan will, no doubt, be very busy; and therefore you ought to be busy also. You fight under a good captain, even JESUS CHRIST, who will tread all enemies under your feet. My dear child, redeem your precious time. Fight the good fight of faith; and when you are wrestling with GOD, fail not to pray for

Your sincere friend,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXXIV.

To Mr. Thomas J———, at Savannah.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 29, 1741.

Dear Sir,

I Thank you for your continued kindness to my dear family. The God whom I serve, will richly reward you: I am more and more convinced, that the Orphan-house is of GOD. He will uphold it with his mighty arm. Dear Sir, there is nothing like a life of faith. It is more and more pleasant to me every day. I pray GOD, you may experience it every moment, and be enabled entirely to overcome the world. My letters, to my dear family, will inform you, how the LORD hath been pleased to deal with me. Blessed be his name, he hath delivered, he does, he will yet deliver. My soul

soul has been among lions. JESUS hath been my helper. I am very comfortable within, and experience more of the divine presence in preaching, I think, than ever I did before in *England*. I suppose I shall not embark for *America* till Spring. Whatever good offices you are pleased to do for my family, shall be then fully acknowledged by, dear Sir,

Your obliged friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXXV.

To Mr. L———, at Bristol.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 29, 1741.

Dear Mr. L———,

WE are now within thirty miles of our desired haven. We have had a pleasant passage. Before I go ashore, I would fain answer your kind letter. Fear not for *Bristol*. No weapon formed against *Zion* shall prosper. Let us wait patiently, and we shall certainly see the salvation of GOD. The LORD is beginning his work afresh. I suppose brother *C*——— has told you something of it. I never felt greater power in *England*. I have had GOD's continued presence during the passage. GOD has given me sweet sleep at night, and a good appetite to my food by day. Faithful is he who hath promised, that those who wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength. I speak thus freely to you, because I know you will be thankful on my behalf. I hope both you and your dear wife, are making daily advances in the divine life. Whilst others are disputing, let us be growing. This will be the best way to convince those, who you find will not be convinced any other way. Adieu! The LORD be with you. May your soul breathe nothing but gentleness and love!

I am, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXXXVI.

To Mr. H———, at the Orphan-houſe.

On board the Mary and Ann, July 30, 1741.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

I Have been five days on board, and am now juſt at our deſired haven. GOD's preſence has ſweetened the paſſage, and I have had freedom to write many letters beſides thoſe ſent to *Bethesda*. If you, and dear brother *B*———, think proper, the little ones may be called, and the letters read before you. A word of exhortation, and a ſhort prayer, may not be unſeaſonable. I thank you all for the tender care you take of the dear lambs. You ſerve a maſter, who will richly reward all your pains. I hope there will come a time, when I ſhall embrace and weep over you all with tears of love! At preſent, I feel myſelf a poor ſinner, and ſtand amazed at GOD's goodneſs and patience extended towards me. I am leſs than the leaſt of his mercies. You may expect to hear from me again ſhortly. O do not forget to pray for me. My dear friends, for the preſent, adieu! The LORD be with your ſpirit.

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXXVII.

To Mr. J—— C———.

My very dear Brother, *Edinburgh, Aug. 1, 1741.*

THE LORD was very gracious to me on board. He gave us a pleaſant paſſage. As you know that the Meſſrs. *Erſkines* gave me the firſt invitation to *Scotland*, and hath been praying for me in the moſt public, explicit, I could almoſt ſay extravagant manner, for near two years laſt paſt, I was determined to give them the firſt offer of my poor miniſtrations. Accordingly, I went yeſterday to *Dumfermling*, where dear Mr. *R*—— *E*——— hath got a large and ſeparate, or, as it is commonly termed, ſeceding meeting-houſe. He received me very lovingly. I preached to his and the town's people

people.—A very thronged assembly—After I had done prayer, and named my text, the rustling made by opening the bibles all at once, quite surprized me: a scene, I never was witness to before. Our conversation after sermon, in the house, was such as became the gospel of CHRIST. They entertained me with various accounts of the success of the *Seceders* labours; and, as a proof of GOD's being with them, Mr. *R*——'s son-in-law told me, that, at one of their late occasions, a woman was so deeply affected, that she was obliged to stop her mouth with an handkerchief to keep herself from crying out. They urged a longer stay, in order to converse more closely, and to set me right about church government, and the solemn league and covenant. I informed them, that I had given notice of preaching at *Edinburgh* this evening; but, as they desired it, I would in a few days return, and meet the associate presbytery in Mr. *R*——'s house. This was agreed on. Dear Mr. *E*——— accompanied me, and this evening I preached to many thousands, in a place called *The Orphan-house Park*. The LORD was there. Immediately after sermon, a large company, among whom were some of the nobility, came to salute me. Amidst our conversation, came in a portly, well-looking Quaker, nephew to Messrs. *E*———, formerly a Baptist minister in the north of *England*, who, taking me by the hand, said, "Friend *George*, I am as thou art; I am for bringing all to the life and power of the everliving GOD: and, therefore, if thou wilt not quarrel with me about my hat, I will not quarrel with thee about thy gown." In this respect, I wish all, of every denomination, were thus minded. I find GOD has blessed my works in these parts. I am most cordially received by many that love the LORD JESUS. I have just been in company with a nobleman, who, I believe, truly fears GOD; and also with a lady of fashion, that discovers a christian spirit indeed. I already hear of great divisions. But JESUS knows how to bring order out of confusion. I hope the LORD is much with you, my dear brother. O may you be anointed more and more, till you are filled with all the fulness of God. Be pleased to read this to all in *Wine-street*; and remember me kindly to all that love the glorious Redeemer. He is a dear, dear JESUS. Tho' we die for, yet

let us not deny him in any wife. Pray that fuch a mind may be always given to

Your weak and unworthy brother and fervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXXXVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. G. W———, at Maxton.

Dear Sir, *Edinburgh, Aug.* 1, 1741.

YOUR kind letter, like all other tokens of my precious Maſter's love, quite amazes me. I hear you are a good old ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST. O that you had wrote to me ſooner! I want the advice and exhortation of thoſe who have been in CHRIST before me. The LORD is pleaſed greatly to bleſs me. His work ſeems to be beginning afreſh in *England.* How it goes on abroad, the papers ſent with this will inform you. Help me, dear Sir, help me with your prayers, that the LORD may bleſs my coming here. I hope ſome have felt the divine preſence in this evening's exerciſe. Thro' grace I can ſay, I did, and do now. O that I could be humble and thankful! O that my heart glowed with the love of GOD and men! I would breathe nothing but love. I would love all that love the LORD JESUS, of whatſoever denomination. May the LORD heal our diviſions, and grant that we may not thereby provoke him to ſend us a common perſecution to drive us together! O that we may ſtand in a trying hour. Dear Sir, I ſhall be glad to ſee you at *Edinburgh* any day after *Wedneſday* next, and then we can ſettle when to come into your parts. I am willing to preach the goſpel to all. It is now late, but I was willing to write, leſt ſomething ſhould hinder me on *Monday.* Dear Sir, good night. I commend you to GOD, thank you for your prayers, and deſire a continuance of them in behalf of

Your affectionate younger brother, and
fellow-labourer in the Redeemer's vineyard,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXXXIX.

To Mr. Thomas N———, at New-York.

My dear Brother, *Edinburgh, Aug.* 8, 1741.

I Have written you several letters; and I rejoice to hear that the work of the LORD prospers in the hands of Messrs. T———s, &c. am glad they intend to meet in a synod by themselves. Their catholic spirit will do good. The *associate presbytery* here, are so confined, that they will not so much as hear me preach, unless I only will join with them. Mr. *Ralph E*———, indeed, did hear me, and went up with me into the pulpit of the *Cannon-gate* church—The people were ready to shout for joy; but, I believe, it gave offence to his associates. I met most of them, according to appointment, on *Wednesday* last.—A set of grave venerable men! They soon proposed to form themselves into a presbytery, and were proceeding to chuse a moderator—I asked them for what purpose? They answered, to discourse, and set me right, about the matter of church-government, and the solemn league and covenant. I replied, they might save themselves that trouble, for I had no scruples about it; and that settling church-government, and preaching about the solemn league and covenant, was not my plan; I then told them something of my experience, and how I was led out into my present way of acting. One in particular said, he was deeply affected; and the dear Mr. *E*——— desired they would have patience with me, for that having been born and bred in *England*, and never studied the point, I could not be supposed to be so perfectly acquainted with the nature of their covenants. One, much warmer than the rest, immediately replied, "that no indulgence was to be shown me; that *England* had revolted most with respect to church government; and that I, born and educated there, could not but be acquainted with the matter now in debate." I told him, I had never yet made the solemn league and covenant the object of my study, being too busy about matters, as I judged, of greater importance. Several replied, that every pin of the tabernacle was precious.—I said, that in every building there were outside and inside workmen; that the latter, at present, was my province; that if they

thought themſelves called to the former, they might proceed in their own way, and I ſhould proceed in mine. I then aſked them ſeriouſly, what they would have me to do; the anſwer was, that I was not deſired to ſubſcribe immediately to the ſolemn league and covenant; but to preach only for them till I had further light. I aſked, why only for them? Mr. *Ralph E*—— ſaid, "they were the LORD's people." I then aſked, whether there were no other LORD's people but themſelves; and ſuppoſing all others were the devil's people, they certainly had more need to be preached to, and therefore I was more and more determined to go out into the highways and hedges; and that if the Pope himſelf would lend me his pulpit, I would gladly proclaim the righteouſneſs of JESUS CHRIST therein. Soon after this, the company broke up; and one of theſe, otherwiſe venerable men, immediately went into the meeting-houſe, and preached upon theſe words, "Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchman ſaid, The morning cometh, and alſo the night, if ye will enquire, enquire ye; return, come." I attended; but the good man ſo ſpent himſelf in the former part of his ſermon, in talking againſt prelacy, the common-prayer book, the ſurplice, the roſe in the hat, and ſuch like externals, that when he came to the latter part of his text, to invite poor ſinners to JESUS CHRIST, his breath was ſo gone, that he could ſcarce be heard. What a pity that the laſt was not firſt, and the firſt laſt! The conſequence of all this was, an open breach. I retired, I wept, I prayed, and after preaching in the fields, ſat down and dined with them, and then took a final leave. At table a gentlewoman ſaid, ſhe had heard that I had told ſome people, that the aſſociate preſbytery were building a *Babel*. I ſaid, "Madam, it is quite true; and I believe the *Babel* will ſoon fall down about their ears;" but enough of this. LORD, what is man, what the beſt of men? but men at the beſt! I think I have now ſeen an end of all perfection. Our brethren in *America*, bleſſed be GOD, have not ſo learned CHRIST. Be pleaſed to inform them of this letter. I have not time to write now. The LORD bleſſes my preaching here, and the work, I think, is begun afreſh in *London*. I preach to many thouſands daily, and ſeveral have applied to me already under convictions. I

have

have been here about eight days. You may expect to hear from me shortly again. The LORD be with you. I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST: He will bless you for what you have done for the poor orphans. He comforts me on every side. O free grace! Dear brother *S*——— salutes you all.

Ever yours in our common LORD.

G. W.

LETTER CCCXL.

To Mr. T—— G———, at London.

Edinburgh, Aug. 8, 1741.

YOU will see, my dear brother, by the following, what GOD is still doing for me. On *Sunday* evening, I preached in a field near the Orphan-house, to upwards of fifteen thousand people; and on *Monday*, *Friday*, and *Saturday* evening, to near as many. On *Tuesday* I preached in the *Cannongate* church; on *Wednesday* and *Thursday* at *Dumfermling*; and at my return on *Friday* morning, at about eight o'clock, I preached at a town called *Queens-Ferry*, seven miles from *Edinburgh*. Every where the auditories were large, and very attentive. Great power accompanied the word. Many have been brought under convictions; and I have already received several invitations to different places, which, God willing, I intend to comply with. At present I can say no more, but desire you to pray for, and expect soon to hear further from,

Your affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXLI.

To the Rev. Mr. W———, at Dundee.

Edinburgh, Aug. 10, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

I Just now had the pleasure of your letter; for which be pleased to accept my hearty thanks. I trust your prayers will be heard in my behalf. Glory be to free grace! many are here brought under convictions. Unworthy as I am, the glorious *Emmanuel* is pleased to clothe his word with power.

I am amazed at his loving-kindneſs, and want heaven and earth to join with me in praiſing his holy Name. By your ſon I have ſent ſome papers, and ſhall gladly receive any from you. I wiſh you would not trouble yourſelf or me in writing about the corruptions of the Church of *England*. I believe there is no church perfect under heaven; but, as GOD, by his providence, is pleaſed to ſend me forth ſimply to preach the goſpel to all, I think there is no need of caſting myſelf out. The diviſions in *Scotland* are affecting, and undoubtedly they will occaſion great ſearchings of heart. I pray GOD to ſupport us in a trying hour. I am not yet determined, when I ſhall come your way. I can only promiſe, it ſhall be the firſt opportunity, and that you ſhall be apprized of it ſome time before. In the mean time, be pleaſed to bear me upon your heart. I am a weak helpleſs worm. Your correſpondence will always be agreeable to me. That you may daily receive freſh anointings from above, is the hearty prayer of, reverend and dear Sir,

Your affectionate, tho' younger brother and ſervant in the Goſpel,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXLII.

To the Rev. Mr. O———.

Edinburgh, Aug. 10, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

I Thank you for your kind and obliging letter.—I had not time to anſwer it before. God willing, I hope to come into the northern parts. The preciſe time I cannot yet tell. For ever adored be the LORD for his free grace! the word is accompanied with great power. Several apply to me daily under convictions. I find it beſt ſimply to preach the pure goſpel, and not to meddle at all with controverſy. The preſent diviſions are a ſore judgment to *Scotland*. This is my comfort, JESUS is king. He will either heal, or bring good out of them. I have been with ſeveral of the aſſociate preſbytery; but I ſee no hopes of accommodation. O that the power of religion may revive! Nothing but that can break down the partition wall of bigotry. Dear Sir, forget not to pray for me. I ſee more and more that I am nothing, and

that

that JESUS is all in all. Did I know how, I would send you some papers; but I hope ere long to have a personal interview; and in the mean while, I beg leave to subscribe myself, reverend and dear Sir,

Your affectionate brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXLIII.

To the Right Honourable the Lord R——.

My Lord, *Edinburgh, Aug.* 11, 1741.

THOUGH I am just going out, yet I cannot satisfy myself without snatching a few moments to write to you. I hope this will find your Lordship safe at your journey's end, rejoicing in GOD for giving his angels charge concerning you in the way. It will please your Lordship, to inform you that the LORD of all Lords hath dealt most lovingly with me, since your departure hence. His power hath been frequently made known in the great congregation, and many come to me daily, crying out, "What shall I do to be saved?" The work of the LORD also goes on in *America*, and in *England*, so that I hope we shall see the kingdom of GOD come with power. This is the full desire of my soul. I am determined to seek after and know nothing else. For besides this, all other things are but dung and dross. O my Lord, why should we that are pilgrims, mind earthly things? Why should we that are soldiers, entangle ourselves with the things of this life? Heavenly-mindedness is the very life of a christian. It is all in all.—I pray the LORD that your heart may be drawn more and more towards him, and be fill'd with all his fulness. I could say more, but Mr. *G—— W——* waits for me. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXLIV.

To Mr. H—— H——, in London.

Edinburgh, Aug. 11, 1741.

My very dear Brother H——,

THOUGH my eyes are dim, and my body calls for reſt, yet I would fain ſend you a line before I go. The LORD JESUS is getting himſelf into many hearts. I ſcarce feel any reſtraint in preaching. Both in public and private, the LORD clothes his word with power. Poor ſouls come to me under deep convictions. Sweet letters are ſent to me of the ſucceſs of my writings and ſermons; and ſeveral preſſing invitations to many places. I hope GOD is beginning ſuch a work here, as he begun, and is now carrying on in *New-England.* Night and day JESUS fills me with his love. My bodily ſtrength is daily renewed. The LORD is pleaſed to open my mouth wide; praiſe him for it. I have preached twice, and talked, and walked much to day. My dear man, good-night. The LORD be with you!

Ever, ever yours, in the moſt adorable JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXLV.

To the Moſt Honourable the M——ſs of L——n.

My Lord, *Edinburgh, Aug.* 12, 1741.

I Am ſurprized to find your Lordſhip ſo condeſcending as to write to me. How bright does humility ſhine in great perſonages? It is this renders GOD ſo amiable to his creatures. He is infinitely good, and withal infinitely condeſcending. What an unparalleled inſtance was that of his loving kindneſs, his giving his only begotten Son to die for ſinful man. How low did JESUS ſtoop when he lay in a manger, much more when he hung upon the accurſed tree. When I think of this myſtery of godlineſs, I am loſt in thought. This makes me to deſpiſe all human happineſs, and ſets my ſoul a longing for a full fruition of my JESUS. I pray GOD to give your Lordſhip grace to determine to know nothing but JESUS CHRIST, and him crucified. He is the only center of true happineſs. In him alone, ſolid, laſting joys are to be found. Having JESUS, I find in him I poſſeſs all things. But whither am I

going? Your Lordſhip will excuſe me. My heart at preſent is enlarged. I pray GOD to viſit your Lordſhip with his great ſalvation. I thank your Lordſhip for your intended benefaction to the poor *Georgia* orphans. I hope the glorious Emmanuel will accept it at your hands. I have ſent your Lordſhip another parcel, ſeeing the firſt hath miſcarried. I ſhall follow it with my poor prayers, being, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXLVI.

To Mr. H—— H——.

My very dear Brother, *Edinburgh, Aug.* 13, 1741.

I Longed to receive a letter from you. Bleſſed be GOD, my longing was ſatisfied this day. My heart is much united to you, and carried out for you. I utterly diſapprove of ſome perſons ſeparating principles. I find, Satan now turns himſelf into an angel of light, and ſtirs up GOD's children to tempt me to come over to ſome particular party. The aſſociate Preſbytery have been hard upon me; but I find no freedom, any longer than I continue juſt as I am, and evangelize to all. I know not that I differ from you in one thing. Glory be to GOD for what he has done at *London!* He is doing great things here. I walk in the continual ſunſhine of his countenance. Every day, freſh ſeals are given of my miniſtry. This morning GOD opened my voice to ſpeak to preachers of the goſpel. Be pleaſed to accept of this ſummary account of my proceedings. On *Sunday* morning, I viſited and preached to the orphans here, and in the evening to as many people as the *Sunday* before. Every day ſince, excepting *Monday*, I have preached either in the churches or field twice a day, and yeſterday I collected upwards of ninety-three pounds for the *Georgia* orphans. People are daily coming under deep convictions, and freſh invitations are ſent me to preach at divers places round about. On *Sunday*, I purpoſe to preach in the country, and alſo the greateſt part of the following week, and ſhall return again, GOD willing, about *Friday* to this city. O my brother, exhort all to praiſe the LORD. I have moſt ſweet letters from many awakened ones. GOD, I believe,

will

will work in the miniſters and young ſtudents hearts. Even ſo LORD JESUS. Amen. Pray fail not writing to

Ever yours,
G. W.

LETTER CCCXLVII.

To Mr. D—— E——, at Sterling.

My dear Brother, *Edinburgh, Aug.* 13, 1741.

I Received your kind letter, and heartily bleſs GOD, if any thing dropping from my unworthy lips was made of ſervice to your ſoul. I believe, GOD inclined me to ſpeak to you. The ſons of the prophets are much upon my heart. I pray GOD that you may be poliſhed ſhafts, and noble inſtruments in his hands, of building up living temples for the Holy Ghoſt. The treatment I met with from the aſſociate preſbytery, was not altogether ſuch as I expected. It grieved me, as much as it did you. I could ſcarce refrain from burſting into a flood of tears. I wiſh all were like-minded with your honoured father and uncle: matters then would not be carried on with ſo high an hand. I fear they are led too much. Such violent methods, ſuch a narrow way of acting, can never be the way to promote and enlarge the kingdom of the bleſſed Jeſus. It ſurely muſt be wrong to fix ſuch bounds to ourſelves, as forbid even our hearing thoſe who love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity, and have alſo been owned of him. CHRIST would not have done ſo.—Suppoſing the ſcheme of government which the aſſociate preſbytery contend for to be ſcriptural, yet forbearance and long-ſuffering is to be exerciſed towards ſuch as may differ from them; and I am verily perſuaded, there is no ſuch form of government preſcribed in the book of GOD, as excludes a toleration of all other forms whatſoever. Was the New Teſtament outward tabernacle to be built as punctual as the old, as punctual directions would have been given about the building it; whereas, it is only deduced by inference, and thus we ſee Independents, Preſbyterians, and Epiſcopalians bring the ſame text to ſupport their particular ſcheme, and I believe JESUS CHRIST thereby would teach us to exerciſe forbearance and long-ſuffering to each other. Was the aſſociate preſbytery ſcheme to take effect, out of conſcience, if they acted conſiſtently, they muſt reſtrain, and grieve, if not

perſecute

perſecute many of GOD's children who could not poſſibly come into their meaſures; and I doubt not but their preſent violent methods, together with the corruptions of that aſſembly, will cauſe many to turn Independents, and ſet up particular churches of their own. This was the effect of archbiſhop *Laud*'s acting with ſo high an hand; and whether it be preſbytery or epiſcopacy, if managed in the ſame manner, it will be productive of the ſame effects. Bleſſed be GOD, I have not ſo learned CHRIST. I preach the ſimple goſpel, and our glorious JESUS is pleaſed to attend it with his power. Every day I feel more and more of the divine preſence, and people are coming to me crying, "What ſhall we do to be ſaved." The love of JESUS fills my ſoul, and conſtrains me to write thus freely to you. O dear Sir, I love and honour your pious father. Remember me in the kindeſt manner to the good old man. I pray GOD, his laſt days may not be employed too much in the non-eſſentials of religion. My heart is knit to the family. GOD forbid, that any thing ſhould hinder us from taking ſweet counſel together. GOD willing, I am to preach at *Falkirk* on *Tueſday* evening, and purpoſe to be at *Sterling* that night, and to preach twice there the next day. If it was thought adviſable, I would collect for the Orphan-houſe at *Georgia* in the afternoon. The LORD be with you, and all the family. Forget me not in your prayers. — I am a poor unworthy wretch. As ſuch, pray for

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXLVIII.

To Mr. H——H——.

My very dear Brother, *Edinburgh, Aug.* 15, 1741.

IT would make your heart leap for joy, to be now in *Edinburgh*. I queſtion if there be not upwards of 300 in this city ſeeking after JESUS. Every morning, I have a conſtant levee of wounded ſouls, many of whom are quite ſlain by the law. GOD's power attends the word continually, juſt as when I left *London*. At ſeven in the morning, we have a lecture in the fields, attended not only by the common people, but perſons of great rank. I have reaſon to think ſeveral of the latter ſort are coming to JESUS. Little children alſo

alſo are much wrought upon. GOD much bleſſes my letters from the little orphans. He loves to work by the moſt contemptible means. O my dear brother, I am quite amazed, when I think what GOD hath done here in a fortnight. My printed journals and ſermons have been bleſſed in an uncommon manner. I am only afraid leſt people ſhould idolize the inſtrument, and not look enough to the glorious JESUS, in whom alone I deſire to glory. Congregations conſiſt of many thouſands. Never did I ſee ſo many bibles, nor people look into them, when I am expounding, with ſuch attention. Plenty of tears flow from the hearers eyes. Their concern appears various ways. I preach twice daily, and expound at private houſes at night, and am employed in ſpeaking to ſouls under diſtreſs great part of the day. I have juſt ſnatched a few moments to write to my dear brother. O that GOD may enlarge your heart to pray for me. This afternoon I ſhall preach out of town, and alſo to-morrow. Next poſt, GOD willing, you ſhall have another letter. I walk continually in the comforts of the Holy Ghoſt. The love of CHRIST quite ſtrikes me dumb. O grace! grace! Let that be my ſong. Adieu. My dear fellow-traveller joins with me in hearty love to you all. I muſt away.

Ever yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXLIX.

To Mr. J—— H——, at Georgia.

Edinburgh, Aug. 24, 1741.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

WITH very great difficulty I get time to write this. The LORD is doing great things in *Scotland.* I preach twice daily to many thouſands with great power. I have collected here very near two-hundred pounds, and have a proſpect of collecting much more. Mr. *N*—— has drawn upon me for three hundred pounds ſterling. I have paid two of it. Some hundreds remain yet unpaid. GOD gives me to put my truſt in him. I have bought five hundred yards of cloth for the dear orphans winter's wear, and ſhall ſend you the other things you mentioned. I rejoice to hear that the LORD is with you. I do not wonder at the contempt you meet with,

or

or the calumnies which are ſpread abroad. Remember the burning buſh. O my friend, my dear friend, how ſhall I thank you for your prayers, care, and love? I am willing to waſh all your feet. Perhaps in the Spring, I may embark; but cannot yet determine. I have written to you many letters, and I always remember you in my prayers. I am glad to hear that you can go to market without money. The LORD increaſe your faith. My dear brother, I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I will do what I can for Mr. *B*——. I thank dear Mr. *J*——, from my heart, for his great kindneſs. I wrote to him and to Mr. *B*——, and near thirty more, a month ago. Expect alſo ſome money ſhortly. I had rather bear any burden, than have my dear family burdened. I thank Mr. *W*—— for his care. His brethren here are well. I have not time to tell you, how I love and eſteem you for the care you take of the dear lambs. I long to weep over you all. Excuſe me for not writing particularly. The LORD be with you all As ſoon as I can poſſibly redeem time, you ſhall hear again, my dear Mr. *H*——, from

Ever yours in CHRIST JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CCCL.

To the Rev. Mr. R—— E——.

Edinburgh, Aug. 24, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

I Thank you for your kind letter. I believe it proceeded from love; but, as yet, I cannot think the ſolemn league and covenant is any way obligatory upon me. Indeed, dear Sir, you miſtake if you think I temporize on account of the orphans. Be it far from me. I abhor the very thought of it. I proceed now, juſt as I have done ever ſince I came out in the miniſtry; and ſo far from not ſetting a hedge about our LORD's garden, that was I called to it, I ſhould ſet a much cloſer hedge than that which the aſſociate preſbytery are planting. I ſhould enquire into people's experiences, before I admitted them to the LORD's table. I would have church members meet in church fellowſhip, and tell one another what GOD has done for their ſouls. You ſeem to think I am not open to light. That I may give you ſatisfaction, I am willing

ing to confer with Mr. *W*—— at *Perth*, where I am to be by divine permiſſion on *Thurſday*, *September* 3. On *Tueſday* next, about four in the afternoon, I purpoſe preaching at *Dumfermling*.—I am engaged to ſup at your collegue's houſe, but intend to lie at yours. In the mean time be pleaſed to pray for me, and to remember my love to all your family; and believe me, reverend Sir, to be

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy brother and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLI.

To the Reverend Mr. O——, at Aberdeen.

Perth, Sept. 3, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

I Have received two letters from you, which much affect me, knowing how unworthy I am of ſuch endearing expreſſions, or indeed of any notice at all. But what ſhall I ſay? Grace! grace! JESUS loves me, and ſo does his ſervant for JESU's ſake. O free grace! I am ſorry to find that any ſhould inſinuate, my not coming to *Aberdeen* is owing to your cold invitation. Such a thought never entered my heart, but quite the contrary. The diſtance of the way, and my preſſing call to *England*, will keep me from you, and nothing elſe. I love and honour you for my maſter's ſake. I ſhould be glad to waſh your feet, and if poſſible I will yet ſee you. But if GOD ſhould not permit me, dear Sir, be not offended. The LORD is pleaſed to give me much freedom and power in preaching. Congregations are every where large, and they have been very liberal to my poor orphans. O that I was humble, and thankful! I am the chief of ſinners: I feel myſelf ſuch. O the efficacy of CHRIST's blood! It is omnipotent; it hath ſaved me. Dear Sir, my heart is melted down with the love of JESUS. He is a dear maſter. He hath ſuffered no evil to befal me, as you have already heard. I have not ſo much as hurt my foot againſt a ſtone. Help me to praiſe him. Worthy is the Lamb that was ſlain, to receive all honour and glory and riches

and power and bleſſing! With much difficulty, I get time to ſend you theſe few lines.—Reverend and dear Sir,

Your very affectionate, obedient friend, younger brother, and ſervant in the goſpel,

G. W.

P. S. For nine days paſt, I have continued preaching with great power twice every day, to very large and affected auditories in many towns and villages.

LETTER CCCLII.

To the Rev. Mr. W———.

Edinburgh, Sept. 19, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

THOUGH nature calls for reſt, and I am to preach four times to-morrow, yet I cannot go to bed without anſwering your kind letter. Bleſſed be GOD for any good done at *Dundee!* Not unto me, not unto me, but unto JESUS CHRIST be all the glory. Thanks be to GOD, I can yet ſend you more glad tidings. At *Creif* we had a moſt precious meeting. At *Glaſgow* I preached ten times. The LORD was with me of a truth. The congregations were very large, as were the contributions, and many were brought under the deepeſt convictions. With great regret we parted, and with great joy was received at *Edinburgh*. I had ſome thoughts of abiding in *Scotland* longer, but laſt night I received a letter, which almoſt determined my return to *England*. Next *Saturday*, GOD willing, I purpoſe to leave this place, and ſhall return into theſe parts, if providence points a way, in the Spring. I do not deſpair of ſeeing *Scotland* like *New-England*. Reverend Sir, for the preſent adieu. My poor body bids me to ſtop. O when ſhall I ſleep no more! I am exceedingly weary, but am affectionately, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your moſt unworthy and obedient brother, and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCLIII.

To Mr. T—— G——, in London.

Edinburgh, Sep. 24, 1741.

My very dear Brother,

THIS ſerves to inform you, that on *Sunday* laſt I preached here four times, twice in a church, and twice in the fields; in the evening I collected twenty pounds for the royal infirmary. On *Monday* morning, I viſited the children in three hoſpitals, and preached in the evening in the park; alſo at *Kinglaſſy*, *Aberdour*, and *Innerkeithing*, on *Tueſday* and *Wedneſday*. On *Thurſday* I viſited the priſon, and in the evening preached to the children of the city, with a congregation conſiſting of near twenty thouſand in the park. It is remarkable that many children are under convictions, and every where great power and apparent ſucceſs attend the word preached. Calls to divers places, are ſo numerous and importunate, that I think it my duty to ſtay in *Scotland* ſome time longer: being in haſte, can ſay not more at preſent. My love to all that love the LORD JESUS.

Your moſt affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLIV.

To the Right Honourable Lord L[othian]

My Lord, *Edinburgh, Sept.* 25, 1741.

THOUGH nature calls for reſt, yet love and gratitude oblige me to ſit up to anſwer your Lordſhip's letter, leſt I ſhould not have time in the morning. Bleſſed be the glorious Redeemer! who ſeems in ſome degree to be working upon your heart. My prayer to GOD is, that theſe convictions may continue, 'till they end in a ſound converſion. You do well, my Lord, to fear, leſt they ſhould wear off. I have not had ſo much acquaintance with the world as your Lordſhip; but I know it is a deceitful thing, and without the utmoſt care and watchfulneſs, will inſenſibly divert the ſoul from GOD. Your Lordſhip is in a dangerous ſituation. A fear of contempt, and a love for honour, falſely ſo called, render religion unfaſhionable

fashionable amongst the rich and polite part of mankind. But the blood of JESUS is almighty, and makes the soul more than conqueror. Here is the fountain to which you and I must apply, to wash away all our sins. And is it yet open for all poor sinners? Come then, my Lord, and lay yourself at the feet of the blessed JESUS. He can, he will, if you believe on him, abundantly pardon you. But faith is the gift of GOD. I pray GOD to give you no rest, 'till you have received the full assurance of faith. Then will you recover your primitive dignity, trample earth under your feet, and with your soul be panting after GOD. O my Lord, it is a blessed thing to have fellowship with the Father, and with the Son. I am a poor despised minister of JESUS CHRIST; but I would not change my Master for ten thousand worlds. I have food to eat, that the world knows nothing of. I long to have your Lordship taste of it too, and shall as it were travail in birth 'till JESUS CHRIST is formed in you. Your Lordship need not remind me to pray for you. Your eternal welfare is much upon my heart. My Lord, now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation. The blessed spirit is now striving with you, and saying, "My son, give me thy heart; what hast thou to do any more with idols?" I hope your reply will be, "LORD, I give thee my heart, my whole heart, and will no longer keep back from thee the least part." Then will your Lordship be truly happy; for so far as we are void of GOD, so far we are miserable. But whither am I running? It is late; but your Lordship desired a long letter, and therefore I have taken the liberty to write freely. I am sensible of the honour put upon me by your Lordship, and hope I shall never betray any trust reposed in me. I pray GOD to sanctify this, and bless our fellowship when we meet together. I thank your Lordship for your concern about the orphans. I am persuaded you will in no wise lose your reward. I hope your Lordship received my last letter, which gave an account of my intended preaching at *Kinglassie* and *Coupar*. May the glorious JESUS sanctify my continuance in these parts, to the promoting his own glory and the good of souls! I think I can say, "to me to live is CHRIST." It revives me to see so many seeking after JESUS. At *Kinglassie* the power was extraordinary. O free grace! that GOD should make use of such a wretch as I am. I desire to lie

humbly in the duſt, and ſay, "Why me, LORD, why me? Fear not, my Lord, I have received remiſſion of ſins by the blood of JESUS. Into his arms, I am juſt about to commend your Lordſhip. I pray GOD to viſit your ſoul with his ſalvation; and hoping my humble reſpects will find acceptance with your Lordſhip, your lady, and lady *Ann*, I beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLV.

To the Right Honourable Lord R——.

My Lord, *Gallaſhiels, Sept.* 28, 1741.

YOUR letter I fear has been too long unanſwered, but gratitude will not permit me to defer anſwering it any longer. I have alſo received your Lordſhip's liberal benefaction for the orphans, for which and all other favours, your Lordſhip hath my hearty thanks.—The innumerable inſtances of GOD's goodneſs quite melt me down. The word of GOD prevails more and more. Every where JESUS CHRIST is getting himſelf the victory in poor ſinners hearts. Young and old from many quarters fly to the goſpel, as doves to the windows. I truſt, your Lordſhip's daughters will feel the power of CHRIST's blood. Happy they, who do feel it. They reſt in GOD. They are ſons and daughters of the LORD Almighty. What a rich perſon is the pooreſt chriſtian? He is joint heir with JESUS CHRIST. Supported with this thought, and feeling the power of it in my ſoul, I can deſpiſe all ſublunary enjoyments, and long to be wholly ſwallowed up in GOD. Happy day, when we ſhall converſe with the world no more! I pray GOD to give me patience to wait 'till JESUS comes. I would leap my ſeventy years, and fly upon the wings of faith and love, into the bleſſed Redeemer's preſence. I hope your Lordſhip is thus minded. May the glorious *Emmanuel* keep you ſo, 'till your ſoul is carried into *Abraham*'s boſom. This is the hearty prayer of, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient and obliged humbl ſervant,

G. W.

LET TER

LETTER CCCLVI.

To the Right Honourable lord L——

My Lord, *Edinburgh, Oct.* 2, 1741.

LAST night I returned from the south country, and receiv'd your Lordship's kind letter. My invitation to *Coupar* was in the name of many: who the persons were that signed the letter I cannot tell. I have sent it inclosed in this. Had I known it to have been more agreeable to your Lordship, I would have appointed the meeting at *Melvill*; but I fear, as such public notice has been given, it will be now impracticable. I cannot possibly stay with your Lordship all *Tuesday*, being to preach at *Dundee*. But in my return from *Aberdeen*, I hope to be at your Lordship's house. I am glad your Lordship intends to be at *Kinglassie*. I shall have both sermons very early, and hope the glorious JESUS will be with us in our going to *Melvill*. O my LORD, I want a thousand tongues to set off the Redeemer's praise. Having him, tho' I have nothing else, I find I possess all things. I have not forgotten your Lordship since I wrote last. You are, and will be much upon my heart. I have heard of the piety of your Lordship's ancestors, and hope many prayers are yet in store for you. Above all, I trust, JESUS prays for you, and then you cannot but be a conqueror; nay, more than conqueror over the world, the flesh and the devil. Take courage then, my Lord, and fear not to follow a crucified JESUS without the camp, bearing his sacred reproach. Beware of honour, falsely so called: dare to be singularly good, and be not ashamed of JESUS or his gospel. O that you may find it to be the power of GOD to your salvation! Look but to CHRIST by faith, and your Lordship's great possessions will not retard, but further and promote your progress in the divine life. What sweet communion will your Lordship then enjoy with GOD, in your walks and gardens? It will then be a little paradise to your soul, and every thing you meet with, will only draw you so much nearer to *Jehovah*, in whom all fulness dwells. This I find by daily experience; and that your Lordship may daily experience the same, is the earnest prayer, my Lord, of

Your Lordship's most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLVII.

To Mr. H——,

Melvill, October 5, 1741.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

I Have, by the ship that brings you this, sent you 70*l.* worth of different sorts of goods to be disposed of, and the money to be applied for the use of the *Orphan-house*. You are to let Mr. *B*—— have 20*l.* I have also sent 600 yards of cloth, a present of my own, to make the boys and girls gowns and coats, some whereof I have had made up here. The other things were given by various persons. Amongst these, you will find some damask table-cloths, which I desire you will sell, they being too good, in my opinion, for our use. O my dear friend, how faithful is the LORD JESUS! He has now enabled me to pay my brother, and Mr. *N*——'s bill of three hundred pounds sterling. There is yet 200*l.* to be paid, which I borrowed since my arrival in *England*; but very shortly I hope to discharge that also. I have been in *Scotland* about two months, and think to be here about a fortnight longer. GOD is pleased to give me health, and to bless my ministrations in an abundant manner. The little children in the hospitals, are much wrought upon. Saints have been stirred up and edified, and many others, I believe, are translated from darkness to light, and from the kingdom of satan to the kingdom of GOD's dear Son. The good that has been done, is inexpressible. I am intimate with three noblemen, and several ladies of quality, who have a great liking for the things of GOD. I am now writing in an earl's house, surrounded with fine furniture; but glory be to free grace! my soul is in love only with JESUS: he helps me more and more. I feel but little straitness in preaching, and we have often sweet appearances of the divine presence in our large assemblies. As to my own soul, it is very comfortable and composed; I feel the power of JESUS more, and the power of indwelling sin less. I am daily waiting for the coming of the Son of GOD. I fear I am too impatient to be gone; but what can the soul do, when sick of love? I have some thoughts of visiting *Ireland*. Whether I shall do that, or come to *America* in the Spring, GOD

GOD only knows. I pray for, and long to ſee you and the reſt of my dear family. I truſt, I then ſhall behold, what I long to behold, a houſhold of faith, a company of poor ſinners walking in the ſimplicity and love of the meek and lowly JESUS. O that you may ſo live, that whoſoever comes amongſt you may ſay, "Surely GOD is in this place." Thouſands of prayers are put up for us, and thouſands of lies are ſpread abroad againſt us. But JESUS enables me to fight my way through all, and I am perſuaded he will make me more than conqueror through his love. In *England*, the work goes on well. Brother *C*—— is much bleſſed in *Wiltſhire*; and brother *H*—— wrote me word ſome time ago, that he had examined about three hundred ſouls of our ſociety, moſt of which had been wrought upon ſince my return from *Georgia*. Help me to cry, Grace! grace! My dear friend and brother, for the preſent adieu! I love you in the bowels of a crucified JESUS. Brethren, pray for us.

I am ever, ever yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLVIII.

To Mr. H——— in Edinburgh.

Melvill, October 5, 1741.

Dear Mr. H——,

I Received your kind letter with the bill, and alſo that ſigned by you, and my other friends at *Edinburgh*. I take all they ſay in good part, but think ſome of their reaſonings a little too worldly. The calumnies of evil men are not to be regarded. I value them not in the leaſt. My largeſt donations have been from the rich and ſubſtantial. The mites which the lower ſort of people have given, I am perſuaded will not prevent their paying their debts, or impoveriſh their families. Mr. *W*——, in a letter to Mr. *S*——, wiſhes there may be a private contribution for myſelf; but I know nothing of, and will not admit of any ſuch thing. I make no purſe; what I have, I give away.—Freely I have received, freely I deſire to give. "Poor, yet making many rich," ſhall be my motto ſtill. My great and profeſſed deſign, is to bring poor ſinners to JESUS CHRIST: but as my orphan family abroad is now

large, and daily to be provided for, without the leaſt viſible fund, and I believe much glory will redound to GOD from that houſe; I think it my duty to ſpeak to thoſe, who I believe, for CHRIST's ſake, are willing to help them. I would have no one afraid of doing too much good, or think, that a little given in charity will impoveriſh the country.—May GOD reward you, and all others that have aſſiſted me for his dear Son's ſake! My poor prayers will always attend my *Scotch* friends. When I ſhall go to *England*, I know not, but I hope GOD will direct me. I muſt have done. Dear Sir, may the LORD be with you, and be your eaſe in pain. My kindeſt reſpects attend your kind wife, and all my dear friends. I thank you and them for their advice, and deſire to ſubſcribe myſelf, with much affection, dear Sir,

Your obliged, and affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLIX.

To the Rev. Mr. M——, at Dornock.

Aberdeen, October 9, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

SOME time paſt, I received a letter from your Preſbytery of *Sutherland*, and if I miſtake not, with your name ſubſcribed. However, as I this night have ſeen your ſon, I think it my duty in a letter to you, to thank the reverend preſbytery for their kind invitation; but as my ſtay in *Scotland* is ſo ſhort, and *Sutherland* ſo far Northward, I cannot think of going thither at this time. Notwithſtanding, my prayer to GOD is, that the glorious goſpel may flouriſh in your hands, and that you may bring many, very many ſouls to JESUS. This, reverend Sir, unleſs my heart deceives me, is my only aim.

For this let men revile my name,
I ſhun no Croſs, I fear no ſhame;
All hail reproach, and welcome pain,
Only thy terrors, LORD, reſtrain!

O, dear Sir, my heart is warmed with the love of JESUS; whilſt I am writing, the fire kindles. Amazing, that JESUS ſhould ſuffer me to ſpeak for him! But what ſhall we ſay?

His

His grace is free. Dear Sir, help me to cry, Grace! grace! Surely I shall sing it in heaven. I long to be there, but am willing to tarry the LORD's leisure. Dear Sir, excuse this freedom; I hope I am writing to one that loves JESUS. I would write more, but must away to give a word of exhortation. That the LORD JESUS may fill you with all joy and peace in believing, is the hearty prayer of, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend, brother, &c.
in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLX.

To Major M———.

Dear Sir, *Aberdeen, October* 9, 1741.

BEING come thus far Northward, and hearing that you are this way, I cannot forbear writing, though nature calls for sleep. I was concerned I could not see you at *London*; but hope this will find you retired from a noisy world, and walking with your dear spouse as becometh the gospel of JESUS CHRIST. It is what I have longed and prayed for many a time. I am of the same mind as formerly. Nothing but JESUS can satisfy the soul. Aided by his Almighty power, I still go on through good report and evil report, preaching the gospel. Blessed be GOD, I am not ashamed of it. For, I find it, as do many others, to be the power of GOD to our eternal salvation. O, dear Sir, I feel more and more of the love of CHRIST every day. It is past expression. I hope ere now you have had it shed abroad in your heart abundantly, by the Holy Ghost. A letter informing me of this, will rejoice my soul. Be pleased to direct to me at Mr. *T*——'s, *Edinburgh*. GOD willing, I purpose leaving *Scotland* in about a fortnight. Whether I shall see you in the flesh, I know not. However, since I know what GOD once did for you, be not offended, if I charge you, dear Sir, not to let me miss you at GOD's right-hand in the great day. But GOD only can bring this to pass: That you and your dear wife may be kept by his mighty power unto salvation, prays, dear Sir,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXI.

To Mrs. Ann D——, at great Granſden.

My dear Siſter, *Aberdeen, October* 9, 1741.

THIS evening your letter came to hand. Though it is paſt eleven at night, and I have rode many miles this day, yet I cannot go to-bed without ſending you a line. I fear, by your manner of writing, you are offended with me for my laſt letter. I knew very well, it would be a trial to you; but I wrote out of pure love, and am glad it is now in your power to clear your huſband, which I much deſired to do. I have too many aſperſions of the ſame nature caſt upon me, not to ſympathize with you both. But JESUS is our advocate, and ere long we ſhall ſee all the accuſers of the brethren caſt down. In ſpite of all, JESUS has been, and is getting himſelf the victory in many ſinners hearts. I am yet carried on day by day, ſtrengthened in body, and much refreſhed and comforted in ſoul. Your letter gives me a little preſent pain, leſt my laſt ſhould have pained you. But GOD permits theſe things to happen among ourſelves, to teach us to look off from all creatures, and to centre all our happineſs in himſelf. Glory be to GOD for his almighty love! At my firſt coming here, things looked a little gloomy; for the magiſtrates had been ſo prejudiced by one Mr. *B*——, that when applied to, they refuſed me the uſe of the kirk-yard to preach in. This Mr. *B*—— is collegue with one Mr. *O*——, at whoſe repeated invitation I came hither. Though collegues of the ſame congregation, they are very different in their natural tempers. The one is what they call in *Scotland*, of a *ſweet blooded*, the other, of a choleric diſpoſition. Mr. *B*—— is neither a Seceder, nor quite a Kirk-man, having great fault to find with both. Soon after my arrival, dear Mr. *O*—— took me to pay my reſpects to him; he was prepared for it, and immediately pulled out a paper, containing a great number of inſignificant queries, which I had neither time near inclination to anſwer. The next morning, it being Mr. *O*——'s turn, I lectured and preached; the magiſtrates were preſent. The congregation very large, and light and life fled all around. In the afternoon Mr. *B*—— officiated; I attended. He began his prayers

ers as usual; but in the midst of them naming me by name, he intreated the LORD to forgive the dishonour that had been put upon him, by my being suffered to preach in that pulpit; and that all might know what reason he had to put up such a petition, about the middle of his sermon, he not only urged that "I was a curate of the church of *England*," but also quoted a passage or two out of my first printed sermons, which he said were grosly *Arminian*. Most of the congregation seemed surprized and chagrined, especially his good-natured collegue Mr. *O*——, who immediately after sermon, without consulting me in the least, stood up and gave notice, that Mr. *Whitefield* would preach in about half an hour. The interval being so short, the magistrates returned into the session's-house, and the congregation patiently waited, big with expectation of hearing my resentment. At the time appointed, I went up, and took no other notice of the good man's ill-timed zeal, than to observe in some part of my discourse, that if the good old gentleman had seen some of my later writings, wherein I had corrected several of my former mistakes, he would not have expressed himself in such strong terms. The people being thus diverted from controversy with man, were deeply impressed with what they heard from the word of GOD. All was hushed! and more than solemn! and on the morrow the magistrates sent for me, expressed themselves quite concerned at the treatment I had met with, and begg'd I would accept of the freedom of the city. But of this enough. The LORD, my dear sister, is my support; let us both continually fly to him, and then let men or devils do their worst. CHRIST will by and by take away our reproach. Into his hands I commend your spirit. Good night; the LORD be with you and yours! I hope to set out for *England* soon. Pray write when you hear of my arrival there, and so convince me, that you are not angry with

Your affectionate tho' unworthy brother
and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCLXII.

To Mr. W——, at Edinburgh.

Dear Sir, *Aberdeen, October* 10, 1741.

I Juſt ſnatch a few moments to anſwer your letter. Want of leiſure prevented my doing it before. I have not as yet ſeen your mother's memoirs. Happy are you in having ſuch a parent. No doubt many prayers are in ſtore for you. As for your entering upon the miniſtry, I cannot adviſe you, 'till you have gotten full ſatisfaction that you are born again of GOD. I know more than one, who are ready to give up their miniſtry for want of this; and as for my own part, I could not feelingly preſs the love of GOD to others, unleſs I was ſure of his love to myſelf. I know not what may have paſſed between GOD and your ſoul. You can tell, I ſuppoſe, whether or not GOD's ſpirit witneſſeth with your ſpirit, that you are a child of GOD? For he that believeth, hath the witneſs in himſelf. If you have got this with a moderate ſhare of learning, a good elocution and a burning love for precious ſouls, then, I think you may do ſervice in a public ſtation. If godly, and real experienced friends are for your entering into the miniſtry, their advice is ſomewhat to be regarded. If their advice proceeds from worldly motives, do not mind them at all. The diſcouragements you meet with from ſome, are not worth your notice. If GOD loves you, he will try you every way. Prayer, meditation, and temptation, are three neceſſary qualifications for a goſpel miniſter. I know not what to ſay about your going to *Georgia*. In *Penſylvania*, and other places, there are moſt noble opportunities of preaching the goſpel of JESUS. But I hope to be in *Edinburgh* in about ten days, and then ſhall be glad to converſe with you. In the mean time, dear Sir, I commend you to GOD, and deſire you would not forget the unworthy creature, who now ſubſcribes himſelf

Yours in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCLXIII.

To the Rev. Mr. J—— W——.

Aberdeen, October 10, 1741.

Reverend and dear Brother,

I Have for a long time expected that you would have sent me an answer to my last; but I suppose that you are afraid to correspond with me, because I revealed your secret about the lot. Though much may be said for my doing it, yet I am sorry now, that any such thing dropped from my pen, and I humbly ask pardon. I find I love you as much as ever, and pray GOD, if it be his blessed will, that we may be all united together. It hath been for some days upon my heart to write to you, and this morning I received a letter from brother *H*——, telling me how he had conversed with you and your dear brother. May GOD remove all obstacles that now prevent our union! Though I hold particular election, yet I offer JESUS freely to every individual soul. You may carry sanctification to what degrees you will, only I cannot agree that the in-being of sin is to be destroyed in this life. O, my dear brother, the LORD hath been much with me in *Scotland.* I every morning feel my fellowship with CHRIST, and he is pleased to give me all peace and joy in believing. In about three weeks I hope to be at *Bristol.* May all disputings cease, and each of us talk of nothing but JESUS, and him crucified! This is my resolution. The LORD be with your spirit. My love to brother *C*——, and all that love the glorious *Emmanuel.* I am, without dissimulation,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXIV.

*To Peter B*ötler.

Aberdeen, October 10, 1741.

My dear Brother,

I Write this, to ask pardon for mentioning your name in my answer to brother *W*——'s sermon. I am very sorry for it. Methinks I hear you say, for CHRIST's sake I forgive you. I thank

thank you, and shall be glad of a conference with you when I come to *London*. There have been faults on both sides. I think, my dear brother, you have not acted simply in some things. Let us confess our faults to one another, and pray for one another, that we may be healed. I wish there may be no dissention between us for the time to come. May GOD preserve us from falling out in our way to heaven! The world and the devil are united against us; O that we could all unite against them! "GOD is love, and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in GOD." I long to have all narrow-spiritedness taken out of my heart. JESUS is able to deliver me. His blood is Almighty. I trust I shall not rest, 'till I have felt the full power of it in my soul. Blessed be GOD, I am still carried on from conquering to conquer. JESUS causes me to triumph in every place. I desire to lie as a poor sinner at his feet, and to cry, Grace! grace! I find I am shortly to be called before the higher powers. Help me, my dear brother, by your prayers. In about nine days I think to leave *Scotland*. I commend you to JESUS, and desire to subscribe myself, dear brother *B*——,

Yours affectionately in the bleeding Lamb,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXV.

To the Reverend Mr. C——.

Aberdeen, October 13, 1741.

My dear Brother,

I Received your letters, and am glad to hear that the glorious *Emmanuel* is pleased to countenance your ministry. May he smile on you more and more, and make you the spiritual father of many children! I have very great reason to be thankful to our common Saviour. He hath been with me greatly, both in *England* and *Scotland*. I generally preach twice every day, sometimes three, even four times, and generally expound in private every night. The LORD has fought many battles for me, and still continues to make me more than conqueror through his love. This morning I felt his power in the pulpit, and now feel it much in my soul. O what a blessed thing it is, to have GOD's spirit witness with our spirit, that we are

GOD's

God's children! This, glory be to free grace! I have continually; and let me be in what frame soever, my soul is waiting for the coming of the Son of Man. Blessed be God, it will not be long ere I shall see him as he is. The sight I have of him by faith, ravishes my soul: how shall I be ravished when I see him face to face! "Lord, purify me, even as thou art pure; for only the pure in heart see thee!" My dear brother, the love of God now fills my soul. May you feel it shed abroad abundantly in your heart! About Spring, perhaps, I may leave *England*. Forget not to pray for me.

I am, dear Mr. *C*———,

Ever yours in Christ Jesus,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXVI.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of L———.

My Lord, *Brechen, October* 17, 1741.

I Would have wrote to your Lordship from *Aberdeen*, but could not then determine when I should be at *Melvill*. This comes to acquaint your Lordship, that, God willing, I hope to be at your Lordship's house on *Wednesday* night, and to preach at *Coupar* on *Thursday*. I should be glad if the magistrates were apprized of it, and the tent fixed in a more convenient place, and at a less distance from the ground. I cannot tell your Lordship, how good the glorious *Emmanuel* has been unto me. He has caused me to triumph in every place, and fills my soul with joy unspeakable, even with joy that is full of glory. I wish your Lordship was not almost, but altogether such as I am, excepting my indwelling corruptions. O my Lord, none but Christians know the pleasure of renouncing the world for God. I am persuaded you felt unspeakable pleasure at *Coupar*. I hope those days have continued with you. Happy are you in having a consort that will forward you in the spiritual life. That you may both live together as becomes heirs of the grace of God, and have all joy and peace in believing, is the earnest prayer of, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCLXVII.

To Mr. Thomas G———, at London.

Dundee, October 21, 1741.

Dear Brother G———,

YOU will see, by the following, what GOD is still doing for me. On *Wednesday* night last I left *Aberdeen*, after preaching there seven times, besides expounding in private. Before I came among them, numbers were much prejudiced against me; but GOD was pleased to attend my ministry with such power, that all opposition fell before me. Many were brought under great convictions. The magistrates made me free of the city; and the people much regretted my speedy departure from them. On *Thursday* last I preached at *Stonhithe* and *Benham*; on *Friday*, thrice at *Montrose*; on *Saturday* twice, and on *Sunday* thrice at *Brechen*, and lectured in the evening at a private house. On *Monday* I preached twice at *Forfar*; on *Tuesday* twice at *Coupar*, in *Angus*; and once at *Dundee*, five miles from *Coupar*, at four in the afternoon, and again at night; here I have also preached twice this day. The presence of GOD accompanies me more and more. Wherever I have preached, I hear of the good fruits of it, both in convicting sinners, and reviving saints. At *Dundee*, the concern among the hearers is very remarkable. People are still more desirous to hear the word. But, GOD willing, I purpose shortly to set out for *England*. My dear brother, pray for me, that I may be humble and thankful. I am glad to hear your wife is recovered. My love to her, and all friends. I am, with cordial affection,

Dear brother *G———*,

Ever yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCLXVIII.

To the Right Honourable the Lord L———.

My Lord, *Edinburgh, October* 26, 1741.

IT is now paſt eleven at night; all is wrapt in awful ſilence. My ſoul is in a quiet compoſed frame. I have been giving your Lordſhip's letter a ſecond reading, with aſpirations to GOD whilſt I peruſed it. Surely GOD has not let me wreſtle with him in vain. The Holy Spirit ſeems to be moving upon the face of your ſoul. I truſt GOD hath ſaid, "Let there be light," and therefore there is light. O that the work may be carried on, till you enter into that reſt which remains for the people of GOD. I truſt your Lordſhip will now awake into a new world, and know what it is to live by faith. Did I not know the power of CHRIST's blood, I ſhould fear for you. But I commend you to a glorious Redeemer, that will certainly take care of you. As I left your Lordſhip's houſe, I was thinking, that the narrow eſcape your Lordſhip had between the ſtones, foreboded ſomething good. JESUS has taken care of you when in your blood. I hope he is now paſſing by you, and ſaying unto you, "Live." O that the ſtone of infidelity, which before lay at the door of your heart, may be now rolled away! O that you may riſe, be looſed from your corruptions, and go about doing good! Satan will not let you go without much oppoſition. He will deſire to have you, that he may ſift you as wheat. But if JESUS prays for you, all will be well. The comfort which you had with him in reading the pſalms, is a taſte of the food believers daily eat, and which the carnal world knows nothing of. My Lord, if you could be brought once to love ſecret prayer, and to converſe feelingly with GOD in his word, your heaven will begin on earth; you will enjoy more pleaſure than in all manner of riches. What will thoſe avail, if you are not rich towards GOD? Be, therefore, my Lord, much in ſecret retirement. Commune with your own heart in your chamber, and be ſtill, and you will then hear the ſecret whiſpers of the Holy Ghoſt. As for praying in your family, I intreat you, my Lord, not to neglect it. You are bound to do it. Apply to CHRIST for ſtrength to overcome your preſent fears. They are the effects of pride, or infidelity, or of both. After once

or

or twice, the difficulty will be over. O that the bleſſed Spirit may enable you to make interceſſion with groaning that cannot be uttered! It rejoices me to think, that I ſhall one day perhaps ſee a church in *Melvill* houſe. Happy, happy are you, my Lord, in having ſuch a conſort, who will forward your Lordſhip in every good word and work. How ſweet will it be for you to go early to your devotions, ſtriving to live like the firſt happy pair, before they had eaten the forbidden fruit. As GOD ſhall enable me, I ſhall bear you both upon my heart. God forbid that I ſhould ſin againſt him in ceaſing to pray for you. My riding upon your Lordſhip's horſe, will often remind me to pray for the donor. My Lord, you are upon my heart. Methinks I would undergo the pangs of the new birth for you; but JESUS can carry you through. Fear not. Go on in his ſtrength, and your Lordſhip will be enabled to ſtand the ſhock of all. I ſhould be glad to hear, from time to time, what the Lord is doing for your ſoul. Since your Lordſhip has laid your commands upon me, I ſhall write as often as poſſible. If your Lordſhip is pleaſed to write within this week, a letter may be directed to me at Mrs. *J*———'s, in *Abergavenny*. If afterwards, at Mr. *S*——'s, Grocer, in *Wine-ſtreet*, *Briſtol*. Your Lordſhip may depend on my ſecreſy; no one hath ſeen your Lordſhip's letter, but Mr. *S*———, who copies this, and who is as my own ſoul. His prayers, I truſt, will benefit your Lordſhip. His humble reſpects await both you and your lady. Once more, I pray GOD to bleſs you both together. But it is late, the clock has ſtruck twelve. Methinks I could wiſh the cry was now made, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh." My ſoul longs to go forth to meet him. This evening I was greatly refreſhed by preaching on theſe words, "This is my beloved, and this is my friend, oh daughters of *Jeruſalem*." O when ſhall I ſee him as he is! Well may your Lordſhip ſay, "He is altogether lovely." The more you know him, the more you will have reaſon to commend him. Eternity is too ſhort to utter all his praiſe. With a heart full of affection and thanks for all favours, I beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCLXIX.

To Mr. J—— C——, at London.

Edinburgh, October 27, 1741.

My very dear Brother,

ALTHOUGH it be paſt eleven at night, yet I cannot miſs a poſt. The LORD is doing very great things here. At *Dundee* the C——— was very extraordinary. On ſabbath-day, the LORD enabled me to preach four times, and to lecture in the evening at a private houſe. Yeſterday I preached three times, and lectured at night. This day JESUS has enabled me to preach ſeven times. Once in the church, twice at the girl's hoſpital, once in the park, once at the old people's hoſpital, and afterwards twice in a private houſe. Notwithſtanding, I am now as freſh as when I aroſe in the morning. "They that wait upon the LORD ſhall renew their ſtrength; they ſhall mount on wings like eagles." It would delight your ſoul to ſee the effects of the power of GOD. Both in the church and park the LORD was with us. The girls in the hoſpital were exceedingly affected, and ſo were the ſtanders-by. One of the miſtreſſes told me, ſhe is now awakened in the morning by the voice of prayer and praiſe; and the maſter of the boys ſays, that they meet together every night to ſing and pray; and when he goes to their rooms at night to ſee if all be ſafe, he generally diſturbs them at their devotions. The preſence of GOD, at the old people's hoſpital, was really very wonderful. The Holy Spirit ſeemed to come down like a mighty ruſhing wind. The mourning of the people, was like the weeping in the valley of *Hadadrimmon*. They appear more and more hungry. Every day I hear of ſome freſh good wrought by the power of GOD. I ſcarce know how to leave *Scotland*. I believe I ſhall think it my duty to pay the inhabitants another viſit as ſoon as poſſible. May the LORD order my goings in his ways! Above five hundred pounds hath been collected, in money and goods, for the poor orphans. Let all that is within me praiſe GOD's holy name. To-morrow, GOD willing, I ſhall leave this place, and go through *Wales*, in my way to *London*. You may hear from me on the road. At preſent, I muſt con-

clude; it is very near twelve. I intreat you to pray and give thanks for, dear brother *C*——,

Your's moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXX.

To the Right Honourable the Lord L——.

My Lord, *Abergavenny, Nov.* 10, 1741.

I Cannot bear the thoughts of forbearing to write to your Lordſhip any longer. I know your Lordſhip will be pleaſed to hear that we had a good journey. CHRIST's preſence made it ſo. The horſe carried me exceeding well. My heart was often drawn out to pray for the donor. Does your Lordſhip's ſoul proſper? Has JESUS ſaid, "Be of good cheer, it is I; be not afraid, thy ſins are forgiven thee." Can it yet be ſaid, "Behold, he prayeth." I find a reſtraint upon me now, ſo that I cannot write. GOD calls me to retirement; being to enter into the marriage ſtate to-morrow. I am perſuaded your Lordſhip will not fail to pray, that we may, like *Zachariah* and *Elizabeth*, walk in all the ordinances and commandments of the LORD blameleſs. I hope my moſt humble reſpects will find acceptance with your Lady. Indeed, my Lord, you are both much upon my heart. Though I have only liberty now to ſubſcribe myſelf, with all gratitude, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient and obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXI.

To Mr. T——, at Edinburgh.

Abergavenny, Nov. 19, 1741.

THIS morning I received your kind letter; for which, and all other favours, you have my moſt hearty thanks. I remembered you in prayer, ſoon after your's came to hand: bleſſed be GOD for the news which it contained. I yet expect to hear of, if not to ſee far greater things in *Scotland*. The LORD has begun, and he will carry on a work, which ſhall make the ears of his enemies to tingle. I have enjoyed much of the divine preſence ſince we parted. On *Saturday* I was

married, in the fear of GOD, to one who, I hope, will be a help meet to me. GOD has been pleaſed to work, by my hands, ſince I have been in *Wales*. O ſtupendous love! O infinitely condeſcending GOD! Be pleaſed to direct your next to *London*. I hope to be there in about three weeks. My wife I ſhall leave in the country for ſome time. Dear Mr. *T*———, pray for us. I do for you and yours. Labour after an abiding of GOD in your ſoul, ſo that you may continually by faith ſee him who is inviſible. Do not be content with being a dwarf in religion: aſpire after the utmoſt degrees of inward purity and holineſs. I could go on, but muſt write ſome more letters. Dear brother *S*——, and my dear wife, ſalute you and all friends. They are not forgotten, dear Mr. *T*——, by

Your moſt unworthy, but moſt affectionate
friend and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXII.

To the Right Honourable Lady D———, in Scotland.

Honoured Madam, *Briſtol, Nov.* 22, 1741.

AT length I have a little leiſure. I muſt improve it, by writing a letter to your Ladyſhip. The many favours conferred on me, loudly called for a more ſpeedy acknowledgment; but hitherto, buſineſs for my Maſter has prevented. Dear Mrs. *C*———'s letter will inform your Ladyſhip that I have altered my ſtate; I truſt for the better; for I think my ſoul is more intimately united to JESUS CHRIST than ever. I would humbly hope your Ladyſhip can ſay ſo too; for there is no happineſs till we can feel an union of ſoul with GOD. That, and that only, as your Ladyſhip has often heard me aſſert, is true and undefiled religion. Your own experience will beſt convince you of the truth thereof. Your Ladyſhip enjoys great advantages, and glorious means of making progreſs in ſpiritual things. You are rich in this world's goods; may GOD make you rich in faith and good works! My Maſter will not forget the kindneſs you have ſhewn to one of the leaſt of his ſervants. It gives me comfort to think, what ſweet freedom of ſpirit I have enjoyed, when opening the

ſcriptures in your Ladyſhip's houſe. Surely GOD was with us of a truth. The ſavour of it is not yet gone off my own ſoul, nor, I hope, from your Ladyſhip's alſo. Since I left *Edinburgh*, I have put up many hearty prayers for you and your family. The LORD make it an houſhold of faith, and make you perfect, entire, lacking nothing! The glorious *Emmanuel* ſeems to be repairing the breaches of his tabernacle, which were fallen down. In *Wales* we had much of the divine preſence. The people there are ſo hungry after the word, that they are reſolved not to leave wreſtling with the Moſt High, till he ſhall be pleaſed to ſend me thither. O that GOD may incline your Ladyſhip to intercede in my behalf! for I long to be humble, and to lie low as a very poor ſinner at the Redeemer's feet. I think I can ſay, he brings me nearer and nearer to himſelf daily; and I will not reſt, till I am moulded into the image of my bleeding LORD. I pray GOD that your Ladyſhip may be content with no degrees of holineſs; but may be daily preſſing forward, till you arrive at the mark of the prize of the high calling in CHRIST JESUS. Mr. *S*—— deſires to join with me in ſending our moſt affectionate reſpects and thanks to your Ladyſhip and all friends. Our particular reſpects await dear Mr. *M^c V*———. I truſt he will yet live to ſee glorious days of the Son of Man. Surely CHRIST is getting himſelf the victory. May he long reign king in your ſoul, and reward you a thouſand-fold for every token of love ſhewn to, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXIII.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of L——.

My Lord, *Briſtol, Nov.* 24, 1741.

MY heart longs to ſend you another letter. I wiſh, above all things, that your ſoul may proſper. I had an extraordinary power given me to pray for you lately in *Wales*. GOD gave me to wreſtle, and I think an aſſurance that I ſhould prevail. I am looking out for an anſwer. Your Lordſhip's next letter, I hope, will afford me matter for rejoicing in your behalf. Your Lordſhip is now entered on the field

of

of battle: you are engaged in a cruel, but a glorious warfare. Go on; though faint, yet ſtill purſue: *nil deſperandum, Chriſto duce, auſpice Chriſto.* My prayer for your Lordſhip is this:

Give him a will, give him the pow'r,
Still equal to the war;
Great Captain of Salvation, thou
Thy trembling ſoldier chear!

O, my Lord, it is a bleſſed thing to fight the Redeemer's battles: I find he makes us more than conquerors through his love. I ſtill enjoy much of the divine preſence, and hope I paſs from glory to glory daily. I preach here at ſix in the morning, and alſo in the evening. GOD cauſes his goodneſs to paſs before us. In a week I hope to ſet out for *London.* Be pleaſed to direct your next thither. The lords have returned my appeal. At preſent, a hook is put in the leviathan's noſe. "When a man's ways pleaſe the LORD, he maketh his enemies to be at peace with him." I hope your Lady proſpers both in body and ſoul. My own, and dear fellow-travellers moſt humble reſpects and prayers attend your whole houſhold. I am, with great affection, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXIV.

To T—— E——, in Edinburgh.

My dear Friend, *Briſtol, Nov.* 27, 1741.

WHEN we parted, I promiſed your wife to write upon the road; but I found it impracticable. Since I came to *Wales* I have had no time. Now I have, GOD gives me freedom. Though late, be pleaſed to accept a letter of thanks for all favours. I think we felt each others ſpirits, both, I truſt, united myſtically, really, and eternally to CHRIST, our common head, and to one another in love. O that all would center here. It would then be ſaid once again, "See how theſe Chriſtians love one another."—As for my own part, I am reſolved not to reſt till every thing, contrary to true, catholic, chriſtian love, be rooted out of my ſoul.

CHRIST's blood and ſpirit are able to do this for me. I only need to pray to GOD to make me willing to have it done. Be pleaſed to help me, my dear friend, when GOD enables you to draw near unto him. My dear companion would beg the ſame. Our tender love awaits both you and your wife. I am lately entered into the marriage relation. JESUS was called to; JESUS was preſent at the marriage. We have lately enjoyed much of the divine preſence. Many precious promiſes have been preſſed upon my ſoul. I believe I ſhall ſee greater things than ever. We cannot expect too great things from GOD. But I muſt have done. I am waited for. Accept theſe few lines in love, from

Your affectionate friend and brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER. CCCLXXV.

To Mr. A———, in London.

Briſtol, Nov. 30, 1741.

My very dear Brother,

I Thank you for your kind letter. Though I hope to ſee you on *Friday*, yet love conſtrains me to ſend you an anſwer. I rejoice that your ſoul is thirſting for holineſs. GOD grant it may never ceaſe till you experience the full and glorious liberty of his children. I ſee plainly how ſatan loves to drive to extremes. Since there is no ſuch thing as having the in-being of ſin deſtroyed, he would not have people preſs after a delivery from the power of it. This is alſo owing to the corruption of our own hearts. The old man doth not love to be crucified and ſlain; but I hope the language of your heart and mine is this,

Reign in me, LORD, *thy foes controul,*
That would refuſe thy ſway;
Diffuſe thy image thro' my ſoul,
And bring the perfect day.

Scatter the laſt remains of ſin,
And ſeal me thine abode;
O ſet me purified within;
A temple meet for GOD.

My

My root of holineſs thou art,
For faith hath made thee mine;
With all thy fulneſs fill my heart,
Till I am wholly thine.

No wonder, when we come to be thus minded, if carnal miniſters, and carnal profeſſors of all kinds, cry out againſt us. Nay, even ſome who have taſted that the LORD is gracious, having ſlumbered and ſlept, and mixed too much with the world, even ſuch frequently fight againſt their privileges, and reſt in an infant ſtate of piety. But, I believe, the LORD will rouſe them, and let the world know, what the blood of JESUS can and will do. Bleſſed be his name, we have a growing church at *Briſtol*: Yeſterday, and ſeveral other times, the LORD hath filled many as with new wine. Sometimes I ſcarce have known whether I have been in or out of the body; but, I find, the more I receive of grace, the more I deſire to lie as a poor, very poor ſinner at the feet of the wounded Lamb. Several have juſt now been with me, who have this laſt week, eſpecially yeſterday, drank deep of divine love. They are now full of the comforts of the Holy Ghoſt. I pray that they may walk humbly with their GOD; for it is a good thing to know how to manage a manifeſtation aright: nature ſo frequently and artfully blends with grace, that, for want of a cloſe watch and tender walk, we grieve the Holy Spirit. Hence ariſe deadneſs and darkneſs in the ſoul. Unbelief creeps in, the chariot wheels of divine love are taken off, and the ſoul drives heavily. Let us, therefore, my dear brother, live a life of great nearneſs to JESUS; and labour day by day to perfect holineſs in the fear of GOD. There is a glorious reſt to be entered into even here. May the LORD make us partakers of it! But why ſhould I in the leaſt doubt it?

Thou wilt give ſtrength, thou wilt give power, thou wilt in time ſet free:
This, great Deliverer, let me hope; this, not for ſelf, but Thee.

For the preſent, adieu!

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXVI.

To Mr. J—— H——.

London, Dec. 7, 1741.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

I Came hither laſt *Friday*, and received a packet of letters from *Bethesda*; but wonder, to find none from you. When I read brother *Grant*'s account of the circumſtances of the family, I remember what the LORD preſſed upon my ſoul on ſhip-board, "The bridegroom ſhall be taken from them, and then ſhall they faſt in thoſe days." However, be not diſcouraged; profeſſor *F*———'s ſtudents were once obliged to ſell their cloaths to buy candles. The work of GOD advances here greatly. We have a large ſociety, conſiſting of ſeveral hundreds, and a noble place to meet in: I have called it a *Tabernacle*, becauſe, perhaps, we may be called to move our tents. In *Wiltſhire*, and at *Kingſwood*, there are many good ſouls, and two new houſes built. In *Wales* the door is opened wider than ever. From thence *(Abergavenny)* the LORD has given me a wife. Her name was *James*, a widow, between thirty and forty years of age. She has been a houſekeeper many years. Once gay; but, for three years laſt paſt, a deſpiſed follower of the Lamb of GOD. I left her about three weeks ago, and am going to-morrow to ſettle affairs, and to bring her up to *London*. I thank your dear wife for her letter: had I freedom I would anſwer it: but I have eſſayed ſeveral times before I could finiſh this. My ſiſter *G*—— is dead: I truſt ſhe ſlept in JESUS. GOD is pleaſed to let me feel more of his power than ever. O that his whole mind was in me! I hunger and thirſt after righteouſneſs: bleſſed be GOD, there is a promiſe that ſuch ſhall be filled. By the letters ſent with this, my dear family will ſee that I have not forgotten them. No: I pray for them continually. I cannot certainly tell when I ſhall leave *England*. Providence detains me here. The work is very extraordinary in *Scotland*. I hear daily accounts of its continuance and increaſe. The door is opened in all places. The Lords ſee through Mr. *G*——'s enmity, and will have nothing to do with my appeal: ſo that a hook is put into the leviathan's jaws. I believe we ſhall ſee

greater

greater things than ever. My dear friend, salute all most tenderly in my name; I am exceedingly engaged, or each of them should hear particularly from,

Ever, ever yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXVII.

To the Right Honourable Lord R——.

My Lord, *Glocester, Dec.* 19, 1741.

THIS comes to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's kind letter, dated *November* 9th. Business has prevented my answering it sooner. The LORD is yet pleased to deal bountifully with me. In *England*, as well as *Scotland*, the Redeemer is riding on from conquering to conquer. About Spring I hope to see *Scotland* again, and then, if possible, I will come as far as your Lordship's house. I have lately been at *Bristol*, and *London*, and have had the pleasure of seeing the church walk in the comforts of the Holy Ghost. I have preached here twice every day, for some days last past. The LORD greatly countenances my administrations, and gives me constant peace and uninterrupted joy in believing. This is what, I trust, our glorious *Emmanuel* will confer upon your Lordship. CHRIST wills that our joy should be full; but we entangle ourselves with the world, we indulge ourselves in sensual pleasures, we trifle away our time in what the world calls innocent diversions, and thereby we grieve the spirit of GOD, and lose the comforts we should otherwise enjoy, from a close walk and communion with GOD. Most complain of a deadness and leanness in their souls; what is it owing to? Not to GOD, but to ourselves. We leave GOD, and then GOD leaves us. Not that we can keep ourselves by our own faithfulness; but notwithstanding, we must be faithful, and workers together with GOD. I know not why I am led to write thus to your Lordship, but nothing else occurs to my mind at present. I am athirst for holiness myself, and long to see others athirst also. O my LORD! I see such beauty and transcendent excellencies in CHRIST, that I long to have his whole mind and image stamped upon my soul. Nothing can satisfy me, but the highest degrees of sanctification and in-

ward holineſs. Here, I believe, I am laudably ambitious. My Saviour wills my ſanctification, my Saviour would have me filled with all the fulneſs of GOD. Even ſo LORD JESUS come quickly! Dear Mr. *S*—— humbly ſalutes your Lordſhip, and prays for your temporal and eternal welfare, with, my LORD,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient,
obliged humble ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXVIII.

To Mr. J—— C——, at London.

My dear Brother, *Glouceſter, Dec.* 22, 1741.

LAST *Thurſday* evening the LORD brought me hither. I preached immediately to our friends in a large barn, and had my maſter's preſence. On *Friday* and *Saturday* I preached again twice. Both the power, and the congregation increaſed. On *Sunday* GOD by a particular providence opened a door for my preaching in St. *John's*, one of the pariſh churches. The late incumbent was my grand oppoſer. He being dead, and the new miniſter not having taken poſſeſſion, the power of the pulpit was in the church-wardens hands. GOD inclined them to let me preach there on *Sunday* morning, and yeſterday afternoon. Great numbers came, and the LORD gave me unſpeakable power. On *Sunday* afternoon, after I had preached twice at *Glouceſter*, I preached at Mr. *F*——'s at the hill, ſix miles off and again at night at *Stroud*. The people ſeem to be more hungry than ever, and the LORD to be more amongſt them. Yeſterday morning I preached at *Painſwick* in the pariſh church, here in the afternoon, and again at night in the barn. GOD gives me unſpeakable comfort, and uninterrupted joy. Here ſeems to be a new awakening, and a revival of the work of GOD. I find, ſeveral country people were awakened when I preached at *Tewkſbury*, and have heard of three or four that have died in the LORD, who were called under GOD by me. We ſhall never know what good field-preaching has done, till we come to judgment. Many who were prejudiced againſt me, begin to be

of

of another mind, and GOD shews me more and more, "that when a man's ways please the LORD, he will make even his enemies to be at peace with him." To-morrow morning I purpose to set out for *Abergavenny*, and to preach at *Bristol*, in *Wilts*, *Glocester*, and *Glocestershire*, before I see *London*. The people in these parts seem excellently well disposed. I hope the work of the LORD prospers in your hand; though absent in body, I am present with you in spirit. May the LORD *Jehovah* comfort you continually with those comforts wherewith I am comforted in him! I hope my comforts are of a right nature; they humble at the same time that they exalt me. I find all my happiness lies in a crucified GOD.

To the blest fountain of thy blood,
Incarnate GOD, *I fly*;
Here let me wash my spotted soul,
From crimes of deepest dye.

A guilty, weak, and helpless worm,
Into thy arms I fall;
Be thou my strength and righteousness,
My JESUS, *and my all.*

Pray for

Your unworthy brother, and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXIX.

To the Right Honourable the Lord L——.

My Lord, *Abergavenny, Dec.* 24, 1741.

THIS day I received a letter from your Lordship, which, I find, your Lordship wrote before my third and last came to hand, wherein I gave your Lordship an account of the circumstance of my marriage. As soon as I received your Lordship's letter, I kneeled down and prayed, that your Lordship might be entirely delivered from unbelief, and be made a partaker of that faith, which will make you more than conqueror over all. Blessed be GOD, for convincing you thus far. I hope the event will prove, that JESUS is taking possession of your whole heart. Your Lordship's opinion of those who call themselves christians, is very just. Free grace has opened your eyes. Your Lordship can therefore join in the following

following verſes, which I think applicable to your Lordſhip's caſe.

I.

Long did my ſoul in JESU'S *Form,*
No comelineſs or beauty ſee;
His ſacred name by others priz'd,
Was taſtleſs ſtill, and dead to me.

II.

Men call'd me chriſtian, and my heart
On that deluſion fondly ſtaid;
Moral my hope, my Saviour ſelf,
Till mighty grace the cheat diſplay'd.

III.

Thanks to the hand that wak'd my ſoul,
That ſhew'd me wretched, naked, poor;
That ſweetly led me to the rock,
Where all ſalvation ſtands ſecure.

IV.

Glad, I forſook my righteous pride,
My moral, tarniſh'd, ſinful dreſs;
Exchang'd my loſs away for CHRIST,
And found the robe of righteouſneſs.

If your Lordſhip from your ſoul can ſing thus, fear not that JESUS will leave you.

O unbelief, injurious bar,
Source of tormenting fruitleſs fear;
Wherein thy loud objections fall,
"Tis finiſhed," ſtill ſhall anſwer all.

Remember, my Lord, the Redeemer's love is everlaſting. If he has paſſed by, and ſaid unto you "Live," you ſhall live for evermore; for whoſoever liveth and believeth in JESUS, ſhall never die. Does my Lord believe this? Then welcome into the new world, welcome among the deſpiſed *Iſrael* of GOD, welcome into the Mediator's kingdom, where you ſhall have all peace and joy in believing. When firſt I was awakened,

Refreſhed, I thought my joys compleat,
When lo! Immanuel's bounties riſe;
Still freſh diſcoveries he unfolds,
The lovely treaſures yet ſurprize!

My

My Lord, I now wonder no longer at the choice of *Moſes*. Well might he count the reproach of CHRIST of more value than all the riches of *Egypt*. GOD forbid, therefore, that you or I ſhould henceforth glory, ſave in the croſs of CHRIST. It will be more honour to be a ſuffering ſervant of CHRIST, than to be the king's commiſſioner. Your Lordſhip will pardon this freedom. Methinks I hear you ſay, "There is no compariſon." Indeed there is none. I would not change my poſt for ten thouſand kingdoms. Bleſſed be GOD, that has given you a diſtant view of the emptineſs of all things here below, and the inſufficiency of every thing to make us happy beſides GOD. May theſe things be realized, and ſtamped upon your Lordſhip's heart! Then what a happy creature will your Lordſhip be? How will it rejoice me to ſee your Lordſhip next Spring. I know not but my friends prayers may draw me there, about that time. In the mean while, I pray GOD from time to time to grant you a growth of grace, that you may know what it is to abide in GOD, and have a conſtant indwelling of the Holy Ghoſt. I rejoice to hear that lady *Ann* ſeems to look heavenward. May JESUS make her a wiſe virgin! For her encouragement, I have ſent an extract of a letter lately ſent to me by a friend in *London*; and that your Lordſhip may know how it is with me, I have ſent a copy of a letter I wrote to that friend a day or two ago. Laſt night I came hither, and preached this afternoon. I purpoſe ſhortly to go to *Glouceſter*, *Briſtol*, *Wiltſhire*, and ſo to *London*. The church there as well as elſewhere flouriſhes. The time for favouring *Zion*, I believe, is indeed come. You ſee, my Lord, how long my letters are, when I have freedom and leiſure. I have thought ſeveral times to write to your Lordſhip, but was reſtrained till I received your Lordſhip's letter this morning. Be pleaſed to direct your next to be left with Mr. *P— S——*, *Leadenhall-ſtreet*, *London*. My prayers ſhall follow this. O may JESUS breath upon it, and then it muſt be bleſſed to your ſoul! I heartily and humbly ſalute the elect lady your wife. —May you both be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD! My dear wife and Mr. *S——* join heartily with me. We all plead at the throne of grace in your behalf, and GOD alone knows,

knows, how often you are remembered and wreſtled for, by, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXX.

To the Right Honourable Lady Mary H———.

Abergavenny, Dec. 24, 1741.

Honoured Madam,

THIS morning I received your Ladyſhip's kind letter; when peruſed, I laid it before the LORD of all Lords, and prayed for you and yours with all my power. My dear wife and Mr. *S*——— joined heartily with me, and by this ſend their moſt humble reſpects. We do not deſpair of waiting upon your Ladyſhip next Spring: but ere that time, we may be all launched into the world of ſpirits, where we ſhall ſing glory to him that ſitteth upon the throne for ever. Does not your Ladyſhip long for that happy hour? Methinks I hear you ready to ſay

I.

How long, great GOD *! how long muſt I,*
Immers'd in this dark priſon lie?
When ſhall I leave this duſky ſphere,
And be all mind, all eye, all ear?

II.

I long to ſee that excellence,
Which at ſuch diſtance ſtrikes my ſenſe;
My ſoul attempts to diſengage
Her wings from this her earthly cage.

III.

Wouldſt thou, Great Love, once ſet her free,
Haſt'ning ſhe'd quick unite to thee;
She'd for no guardian angels ſtay,
But fly and love thro' all the way.

This, I believe, was the language of your honoured mother's heart, who is now joined with the heavenly choir above. Methinks I hear her ſay, "Daughter, follow me as I followed CHRIST; aſpire after the higheſt degrees of holineſs, for the more holy you are, the nearer ſhall you ſit to the GOD-Man

CHRIST

CHRIST JESUS, the deeper insight shall you have into the beatific vision." This, honoured Madam, is a great motive to my soul to copy after my glorious JESUS. Blessed be GOD, that made my letter savory to your soul. For this, and all other mercies, I desire to lie in the dust, and kiss the Redeemer's feet. I do not wonder that *Mary* loved to sit there: I do not wonder that another *Mary* wiped them with the hairs of her head. Was my LORD here, I should wish for a thousand alabaster boxes of ointment, to break for him. But JESUS says, "Give me thy heart, and I desire no more." My soul replies,

Take my poor heart, and let it be
For ever clos'd to all but thee;
Seal thou my breast, and let me wear
That pledge of love for ever there.

How blest are they who still abide,
Close shelter'd in thy bleeding side;
Who life and strength from thence derive,
And by thee move, and in thee live.

O honoured Madam, I am amazed at JESUS's love. I willingly, join with you in saying, "Amen, Halleluiah! Worthy, indeed, is the Lamb that was slain." I bless GOD for enlarging your heart, and giving you freedom to write. It is sweet to communicate our thoughts of JESUS. I hope the LORD will bless this to your Ladyship, and reward you for all past favours. My humble respects attend Mr. *H*——, and my hearty love to your little lambs. I prayed for them this morning. When I go to town, I hope to wait upon the *Marquis*.——I have been a short circuit into *Gloucestershire*, and find the divine presence accompanying me more and more. O that I was humble! O that I was thankful!

I.

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for such as caus'd his pain,
Sinners who him to death pursu'd?

II.

II.

'Tis myſtery all, Meſſiah dies;
Who can explore this ſtrange deſign?
In vain the curious ſeraph tries
To ſound the depths of love divine.

But whither am I going? Your Ladyſhip will excuſe me; whilſt I am writing, the fire kindles.

Thro' all eternity to GOD,
A grateful ſong I'll raiſe;
But O eternity's to ſhort,
To utter all his praiſe.

With expectation of another letter, and with hearty prayers for your temporal and ſpiritual welfare, I ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's obedient ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXXI.

To Mr. Samuel M———, in London.

Dear Mr. M——, *Briſtol, Dec.* 28, 1741.

BOTH my wife and I received your letters. I ſend this, to thank you for them. I came from *Abergavenny* on *Saturday* night. My dear wife was pretty well; I expect her here on *Friday*. We ſhall bring no more goods to *London*, than we ſhall uſe; but I know not what to ſay about coming to your houſe, for brother *S*—— tells me, you and your family are dilatory, and that you do not riſe ſometimes till nine or ten in the morning. This, dear Mr. *M*——, will never do for me; and I am perſuaded ſuch a conduct tends much to the diſhonour of GOD, and to the prejudice of your own precious ſoul. Sometimes I have looked upon you with grief; you have buſied yourſelf about the outward affairs of religion in reſpect to others, and all the while I fear neglected to look into, and ſtudy the improvement of your own heart. I think you go backwards inſtead of forwards. I fear your preſent buſineſs will not anſwer, and I am ſure you will have no ſolid comfort, till you look leſs abroad and more at home. Somebody ſaid, you was like the *Athenians*, who deſired to hear

hear some new-thing. I thought the observation was too just. You are jealous about principles, (which is right) but all the while your own practice is not sufficiently watched over. I have heard that you spend much time in coffee-houses, and from your own house. I hope these things are not so; and it is with grief and out of tender love that I now mention them to you. For some time I felt my heart quite locked up from writing to you. Mr. *M*—— will not be offended with me for this plain dealing. You know I love you, and I am sure this letter proceeds from love. I know too much of my own weakness and infirmities to insult others; and when a brother is overtaken in a fault, I desire to restore him in the spirit of meekness. But I know how much the glory of GOD is concerned in our walk. The eyes of the world are now in an especial manner upon you. How holy ought you and I, dear Mr. *M*——, to be, in all manner of conversation and godliness! Labour therefore, my dear brother, to get an abiding presence of GOD in your heart. Be willing to be searched. Pray that you may feel the full power of the Redeemer's blood; and walk in the continued comforts of the holy ghost. Be not slothful in business. Go to bed seasonably, and rise early. Redeem your precious time: pick up the fragments of it, that not one moment may be lost. Be much in secret prayer. Converse less with man, and more with GOD. Accept this advice, given in great love. I purpose staying here about a fortnight. Dear Mr. *M*———, I am

Your affectionate though unworthy brother,
and servant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXXII.

To the Rev. Mr. W——, at Dundee.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Bristol, Dec.* 30, 1741.

I Should blame myself much, for not writing to you before now, was I conscious it was owing to any wilful neglect: but my master's business hath so engaged me, that I really have not had an opportunity. GOD gave us a sweet journey to *England*. Since my return hither, I have been at *Gloucester*, *Bristol*, in *Wales*, and at *London*, and have great reason to bless

bleſs our *Emmanuel* for what he has done for his church. My ſoul hath drank largely of the divine love. I have been carried as on eagles wings, and am now better in health than perhaps ever ſince I have been in the miniſtry. I preach here twice daily. In about a fortnight, I ſhall remove to *London*, where I purpoſe to continue, GOD willing, till the weather permits of field-preaching again. About Spring, if Providence favours, I hope to pay you a ſecond viſit. In the mean while, I ſhould be glad to hear from you, what fruits you have ſeen ſpring from my firſt. I hope the LORD will make your latter end greatly to increaſe. I ſhall rejoice to hear of your ſucceſs. My ſoul is much engaged for poor *Scotland*. I ſhall be glad to hear who has ſucceeded the good Mr. *W*—— of *Perth*. Ah dear man! He is now gone into the world of ſpirits, where there is no ſeceding, but all join in one common ſtrife, who ſhall praiſe their LORD and maſter in the moſt exalted ſtrains. I long to follow, but deſire patiently to wait till my bleſſed change come. What a comfort, dear Sir, is it to think, that death is conquered. How ſweet to be one of CHRIST's waiting ſervants! It is a bleſſed poſt! And ſuch honour belongs to all his ſaints. Thanks be to GOD for this unſpeakable gift. Dear Sir, whilſt I am writing, the fire kindles. I long to leap my ſeventy years. Welcome eternity; I want to ſee time ſwallowed up. But I muſt have done, having other letters to write. My kind love to your houſehold and all friends. I hope ere long you will ſend a line to, reverend and dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy
brother and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXXIII.

To the Reverend Mr. O——, at Aberdeen.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Briſtol, Dec.* 30, 1741.

I Long to write you a line, to teſtify the undiſſembled love my ſoul bears towards you. I alſo long to hear what JESUS hath done at *Aberdeen*. I believe he ſent me thither, and I am perſuaded he did not ſend me there in vain. I have experienced freſh wonders of mercy, ſince I ſaw you. The

LORD

LORD has bleſſed my miniſtry in *England*, and in *Wales*, where I truſt I was married *in the* LORD; and as I married for him, I truſt I ſhall thereby not be hindered, but rather forwarded in my work. O for that bleſſed time when we ſhall neither marry nor be given in marriage, but be as the angels of GOD! My ſoul longs for that glorious ſeaſon. Perhaps, ſometimes I am too impatient. But who that has taſted of JESUS's love, can forbear longing to be with him? I long to ſee him as he is, and my ſoul will never be compleatly ſatisfied till I ariſe after his divine likeneſs. This, I believe, is the deſire, and frequently the frame of dear Mr. *O*——'s ſoul. But I believe we both have croſſes to take up, and many trials to undergo, before we ſhall be admitted to the beatific viſion. Alas! What a ſtranger am I to the meekneſs which was in JESUS? How much acrimony is there in my temper, that wants to be taken away? Bleſſed be GOD, my Saviour is omnipotent. He can, he will deliver me. He can, he will conform me to himſelf. I think I can ſing theſe lines,—

My root of holineſs thou art,
For faith hath made thee mine:
With all thy fulneſs fill my heart,
Till all I have be thine.

Dear Sir, what a fulneſs is there in JESUS? What a pity is it, that we ſhould not draw largely out of it? Why ſhould we be content with low degrees of holineſs? Why ſhould we be always dwarfs in religion? I am quite aſhamed of my low ſtature. I am an unprofitable ſervant. O dear Mr. *O*——, pray for me, that the LORD may purge me, and that I may bring forth more fruit. I have lately been at *London*, *Glouceſter*, *Wilts*, and *Wales*. The work of the LORD proſpers. I preach here twice every day. That GOD may bleſs and reward you all, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Mr. *O*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXXIV.

To the Rev. Mr. W——, at Galliſhiels.

Briſtol, December 30, 1741.

Reverend and dear Sir,

THE love of JESUS conſtrains me to trouble you with a letter at this time. Nothing but his work ſhould have prevented my writing to you ſooner. But you know how it uſed to be with me. O how little do I for JESUS, who has done ſo much for me! I abhor myſelf in duſt and aſhes. I run to hide myſelf in his wounds. His righteouſneſs, his blood alone can recommend me to the Father. O that I was like CHRIST, that his whole mind was wrought in my ſoul! I am now panting after his image; I am now thirſting after his purity and holineſs; help me, dear Sir, help me by your prayers, that I may feel the power of the Redeemer's blood. He hath done great things already for me; but as yet I have aſked nothing. Greater things are yet before me. There is an inexhauſtible fulneſs, out of which the Redeemer would have me draw continually. O for faith, for ſtrong faith!

I more would bleſs, I more would thank,
I more would live to Jeſu's praiſe.

Since my return, I have been viſiting the churches. They grow and increaſe daily. I preach twice every day. The LORD is among us. I hope I ſhall hear the ſame from you. In about fourteen days I go to *London*. About Spring I hope to ſee *Scotland* once more. I have good news from the Orphan-houſe. As yet, I have not freedom to write out the ſermon which you mention. Through inadvertence, I did not ſend you Mr. *M*——'s letter. GOD's time is beſt. Perhaps diſputes about church-government had better ſubſide. I am determined to know nothing but JESUS CHRIST, and him crucified. Be pleaſed to remember me to dear Mr. *O*——, at *Keiſo*. I hope he behaves like a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST. My kind reſpects attend your ſon. Be pleaſed to accept of the ſame in a moſt tender manner from dear Mr. *S*——, and from, dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCLXXXV.

To Mr. R—— S——, in London.

Briſtol, Jan. 2, 1742.

My dear Brother S———,

I Find freedom to anſwer your kind letter immediately. I thank GOD for bleſſing my writing to your poor ſoul. Your ſalvation I long, and pray for. So that ſouls are built up in their holy faith, let the Redeemer make uſe of what inſtrument he pleaſes. Brother *Robert*, it is a bleſſed thing to have always a Catholic ſpirit. I am perſuaded, JESUS will give it to me. I am reſolved never to reſt, 'till ſelf-love, bigotry, prejudice, and all narrowneſs of ſpirit be expelled out of my ſoul. Bleſſed be the Redeemer's free grace! I ſee more and more into the inward receſſes of my mind. Dear *Robert*, there is ſuch a thing as paſſing from glory to glory. For JESUS CHRIST's ſake, ſtrive to enter in at the ſtraight gate, and never ceaſe ſtriving 'till you enter into that reſt which awaits the people of GOD. It is a ſweet thing to abide in JESUS's wounds, and from a feeling poſſeſſion of GOD in the heart, to be able to ſay, "My fellowſhip is with the Father and the Son." It is true we are not to live, or rely on our frames. The righteouſneſs of JESUS CHRIST alone, and not our doings or ſufferings, can recommend us to the Father. But however, we ought always to labour to be in a ſweet and humble frame, and be watchful againſt any thing whatever, that may interrupt our communion with GOD. Peace and joy ſhould flow in a believer's ſoul, like a river. If any thing ſhould obſtruct the paſſage, he ſhould not reſt 'till faith overflows, and drives it away before him. I know not what others may ſay, but thro' grace I can ſing with biſhop *Ken*,

"*To my ſoul it's hell to be,*
"*But for a moment void of thee.*"

O the fulneſs that there is in CHRIST! It fills my heart, and out of the abundance of my heart my pen writeth. Dear *Robert*, may the LORD bleſs it to your ſoul, and that will greatly rejoice

Your moſt unworthy, though moſt affectionate
friend, brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXXVI.

To Mr. I—— H——, in London.

My dear Brother H——, *Briſtol, Jan. 2, 1742.*

I Owe you a letter, and very much love. I thank you for calling to ſee me, when laſt in *London*. May the love of JESUS be ſhed abroad abundantly in your heart by the Holy Ghoſt. My ſoul is now thirſting after the Redeemer's love. I truſt you and I, and all the brethren, ſhall watch and pray againſt every thing in our hearts, that is any way ſelfiſh, or contrary to the boundleſs love of our exalted head. I long after a ſolid, real, undiſſembled union with all that bear the Redeemer's image. If I know any thing of my heart, I care not how the old man be crucified and cut to pieces, ſo that I may put on the new man, which is created after GOD in righteouſneſs and true holineſs. Bleſſed be the free, rich, and ſovereign grace of our glorious Redeemer! who has begun the good work in my ſoul. Great, very great things hath JESUS done for me, a worthleſs worm: but I ſee infinitely greater things lying before me. There is an inexhauſtible fulneſs in JESUS CHRIST, out of which I hope to draw to the endleſs ages of eternity. O the meekneſs, the love, purity and holineſs, that is in JESUS. Why ſhould we be dwarfs in holineſs? If CHRIST came into the world, that we might have life, and ſo much the more abundantly, why ſhould we not aſk and ſeek for it, eſpecially ſince we are ſure to obtain? My dear brother, you ſee how free I write. Love conſtrains me to do ſo. O that I was a flame of fire! I have lately been at *Glouceſter*. The LORD was with us of a truth. In *Briſtol*, GOD attends me with his mighty power. Laſt night JESUS rode on triumphantly indeed. Sometimes my heart is ſo full, that I am tempted to think

——— *My joy complete:*
When lo! Emmanuel's *mercies riſe,*
Still freſh diſcoveries he unfolds,
The lovely treaſures yet ſurprize.

Unbelief ſays, this will not hold to-morrow; when lo, "to-morrow is as the day paſt, and much more abundant." I find

find there is yet oil, if there be yet a veſſel, and an empty heart to contain it. Pray that my heart may be emptied of ſelf, and that JESUS may be my all in all. I pray GOD, that none of us may give in to narrowneſs of ſpirit, but look up to JESUS for power over ſelf, in all its ſhapes. Yeſterday I went to hear Mr. *C*——. The LORD helped him, I believe, in ſome part of his diſcourſe. I would be free; I would meet more than half way; but we are all too ſhy. The LORD fill his ſoul with more of the diſintereſted love of JESUS. To-night I begin a general monthly meeting to read correſponding letters. Pray give thanks for the ſucceſs of the goſpel in my unworthy hands. It ſhall be returned, as JESUS ſhall enable

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXXVII.

To Mrs. K——, in London.

My dear Siſter, *Briſtol, Jan.* 4, 1742.

THIS morning, in a letter from brother *C*——, I heard that your dear huſband was dangerous ill of the ſmall-pox. I was touched with a tender ſympathy of your caſe; I immediately kneeled down, and laid your circumſtances before our compaſſionate high-prieſt. I doubt not, but he is touched with a feeling of your afflictions, and will give you grace to help in time of need. I hope the language of your heart is this:

Thy gifts, if call'd for, I reſign,
Pleas'd to receive, pleas'd to reſtore;
Gifts are thy work, it ſhall be mine
The giver only to adore.

I was, before I received the news of your dear huſband's illneſs, thinking that GOD's people muſt meet with uncommon trials. We ſhall often find GOD's providences as it were contradicting his promiſes. Thus it was with *Abraham* and *Jacob*, and thus I believe it is in ſome degree or other with all the children of GOD; for otherwiſe, how can faith be exerciſed? I doubt not but the enemy of ſouls will now be very buſy with you, and break in with his fiery darts upon

your ſoul; but I pray JESUS to keep you from ſtaggering through unbelief. May you be ſtrong in faith, giving glory to GOD! Againſt hope, may you believe in hope. However your huſband may be diſpoſed of, my prayer for you is, "LORD! make her ſtill and reſigned." I think the love of CHRIST conſtrains me to write you this letter. Who knows but the LORD may bleſs it to your ſoul? However, as you love the LORD JESUS, I hope you will receive it as a token of unfeigned chriſtian ſympathy and affection from, dear Siſter,

Your moſt unworthy brother and
ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXXVIII.

To Mr. Peter S——, in London.

Briſtol, Jan. 7, 1742.

I Have been obeying your requeſt: I mean, bowing my knees before the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST in your behalf. O that he may live before thee; that he may eſcape the pollutions that are in the world through luſt; that he may be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD, was the breathing and language of my heart. I truſt the LORD is now working upon brother *S*——. He ſeems to have had ſome diſcoveries of the Redeemer's love. May my dear *Peter* receive the full aſſurance of faith, and be truly fixed upon the rock of ages! "Even ſo LORD JESUS come quickly. Amen and amen." Excuſe my writing to you in this manner, but GOD has put into my heart ſuch an undiſſembled love for you, and your dear brothers, that I cannot be ſatisfied 'till I ſee the Redeemer's love ſhed abroad in all your hearts by the Holy Ghoſt. Ah *Peter*, *Peter*, I truſt JESUS prays for thee, and then the world ſhall not ſteal away thy heart from GOD. Satan hath been ſifting me ſeverely, theſe two or three days. I have had ſome cloſe combats with the great dragon, but JESUS hath gotten himſelf the victory. I am enabled greatly to rejoice. For, "Bleſſed is the man that endureth temptations; when he his tried, he ſhall receive the crown of life." The brightneſs of it, even at this diſtance, dazzles my ſight. Yet a little while, and JESUS CHRIST ſhall give it unto us. Dear

brother

brother *K*—— has got the ſtart of us. Happy man! He is at the end of his race. I ſympathize with, and have been praying for his ſurviving friends. The LORD enable us all to walk ſo circumſpectly, that the common enemy may not have an occaſion to ſpeak reproachfully of us. But whither am I running? Excuſe me, dear *Peter*. GOD gives me freedom in writing to, and praying for you. I hope dear brother *R*—— received my laſt in good part. GOD only knows how the happineſs of both of you is longed for by, dear brother,

Yours in the crucified JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCLXXXIX.

To Mr. J—— C——, in London.

Glouceſter, Jan. 28, 1742.

My very dear Brother,

ON *Friday* laſt I left *Briſtol*, having firſt ſettled affairs almoſt as I could wiſh. At *Kingſwood*, I adminiſtred the ſacrament. On *Wedneſday* night it was the LORD's paſſover; on *Thurſday* we had a ſweet love-feaſt; on *Friday* the LORD was with me twice at *Tockington*; on *Saturday* morning I broke up ſome fallow ground at *Newport*, by preaching with power to about two thouſand people, and in the evening to many thouſands at *Stroud* with wonderous power; on *Monday* morning at *Painſwick*, and ever ſince twice a day here. Our congregations I think are larger than at *Briſtol*. The word proves ſharper than a two-edged ſword. Every ſermon is bleſſed. Theſe words follow, "I have much people in this city." I am juſt now going to *Chafford*. To-morrow I expect my wife. In my next, I will ſend you word what I intend to do. I was one day at *Bath*. I ſhould be glad to ſee brother *R*——'s defence before it be publiſhed. I told him of it; I believe he will be upon his guard. His ſoul proſpers. Sinleſs perfection I fear will be propagated in theſe parts. The LORD in his due time will root out that pernicious weed. I thank you for writing to me. Pray write to me often. GOD willing, I ſhall examine *Hampton Society* to-night. The ſame I think to do in *Wiltſhire*. I want to be in *London* as ſoon as may be. Pray that I may know the LORD's will. We muſt away

away to *Chafford*. The LORD be with you, and abundantly refresh you. My most tender love awaits all. Brethren, pray for

Yours most affectionately in JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CCCXC.

To the Rev. Mr. G— T—.

Glouceſter, Feb. 2, 1742.

Reverend and dear Brother,

I Have longed for some time to send you a line, and have wondered that I have heard no oftener from you; but as I know my own circumstances, I can the more easily guess how it is with you. GOD has been very good to me since my arrival. I found when I came at first, I had all my work to begin again. Brother *W*—— had so prejudiced the people against me, that those who were my spiritual children would not so much as come and see me; nay they have gone by me whilst preaching in *Moor-fields*, and stopped their ears. This I find in some measure hath been your case, and God wisely permits this, to teach us to cease from man. *Paul*'s Epistles to the *Galatians* much comforted me. Besides, I was embarrassed with brother *Seward*'s death. He died without making any provision for me, and I was at the same time much indebted for the Orphan-house.—But all this was to humble and prepare me for future blessings. The LORD hath enabled me, blessed be his name, to keep steady to my principles and usual practice. A new and numerous church has been raised at *London*. In *Essex*, the LORD was wonderfully with me. Every where the congregations increase. In *Bristol* GOD enabled me to fight my way through. We have hired a large hall, and have expounded there twice a day. In *Scotland*, the work, for its beginning, is rather greater than at *New-England*. I hear continually of the seed sown increasing, and springing up. GOD willing, I purpose paying *Scotland* another visit. I have lately been at *Bristol*, and both there, and here, and also at *London*, the word runs and is glorified. Through the tender mercies of our GOD, I have been carried as on eagles wings through a variety of outward and inward trials. The greatness of

of which none knows but GOD and my own soul. About eleven weeks ago I married, in the fear of GOD, one who was a widow, of about thirty-six years of age, and has been a housekeeper for many years; neither rich in fortune, nor beautiful as to her person, but, I believe, a true child of GOD, and would not, I think, attempt to hinder me in his work for the world. In that respect, I am just the same as before marriage. I hope GOD will never suffer me to say, "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come." I am glad that matters are settling so amicably at *Philadelphia*. What a pity is it, that we should fall out in the way to heaven! I would do any thing except defiling my conscience, and giving up what I think is truth, to prevent it. The associate brethren are much to be blamed; I never met with such narrow spirits. I do not forget you, or your brethren, or the churches in your parts. The LORD be with you. He is pleased to shew me more and more of my own heart, and day by day refreshes my soul. My body is weak as usual; but JESUS is my strength. Help me to praise him. Pray send a line to, reverend and dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, though most unworthy
brother and servant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCXCI.

To Mr. S——, at New-Brunswick.

Dear Mr. S——, *Glouceſter, Feb.* 2, 1742.

LAST week I received your kind letter. Blessed be GOD, who hath brought you out of darkness into his marvellous light. I hope the Redeemer hath now shewn you his hands and his feet, and you can now say, "My LORD and my GOD." What have you to do now but to walk humbly with your GOD, and daily to aspire after the whole mind that was in JESUS? I find but few truly labouring after this. Who can say, "My soul is athirst for GOD, yea even for the living GOD:" and yet to such only is the promised blessedness, of being filled, given. As for my own part, I am ashamed to think how unlike I am to my Saviour; I see such beauty in him, that I long to be conformed to his divine image and likeness. May you and I, dear Mr. *S*——, never

rest

reſt till we have attained unto it; and the more we do attain, the more willing we ſhall be to come, as poor ſinners, to JESUS CHRIST; it is a bleſſed thing, dear Sir, to be brought out of ſelf. It will be continually creeping in: happy they who have power over it. I do not wonder at your being united with Mr. *J—— C———*: he is a dear ſoul, and one whom the LORD delights to honour. Bleſſed be GOD, the work in our hands every where increaſes. I am ſupported and encouraged, quickened and comforted day by day. JESUS loves and bleſſes me. May he bleſs you and yours more and more, and cauſe you to walk in the comforts of the Holy Ghoſt. My tender love to all. I hope yet to ſee you once more in the fleſh. In the mean while I beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXCII.

To Mr. W———.

Dear Mr. W———, *Glouceſter, Feb.* 2, 1742.

I Thank you for your kind letter. It ſhould have been anſwered ſooner, had an opportunity offered. I bleſs GOD for you, who carries on in your ſoul the ſpiritual building. I doubt not but the top-ſtone will yet be brought out, and the builders be made with ſhouting to cry, "Grace! Grace!" I ſhould think it was not of GOD, if the work was not oppoſed.—What difficulties did *Nehemiah* go through in building the wall? But fear not, the LORD is with you. He built not for man, but for the LORD. By his leave, I propoſe bringing a ſchool-maſter and miſtreſs with me. When I ſhall embark, I know not. The calls here are ſo loud and numerous, and ſo few labourers ſent forth to act in a popular way, that I think it my duty not to leave *England* yet. GOD is pleaſed to work by my miniſtry more and more. My ſoul is refreſhed, and my body ſtrengthened and renewed day by day. In *Scotland* there is a very great awakening; and alſo in *London*, *Briſtol*, *Wiltſhire*, and *Glouceſterſhire*. But, notwithſtanding all this, my *American* friends are by no means forgotten. I continually pray for them.

them. The LORD, in his due time, will send me to you. In the mean time, be pleased to remember me in the tenderest manner to all that love the glorious Redeemer. Grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied upon them and you: so prays, dear Mr. *W*———,

Your most affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXCIII.

To Mr. James R———, in Philadelphia,

Dear Mr. R———, *Glocester, Feb.* 2, 1742.

I Was glad to hear (though by another hand) of your safe arrival. May your soul prosper, being rooted and grounded in love, and built upon the rock of ages, the dear LORD JESUS. Blessed be GOD, the church is in much greater peace than when you left *England*. There hath been a very great awakening in several places. GOD hath brought order out of confusion; and (as he always will) hath caused even our divisions, though no thanks to us, to work for good. I hear you have had a sifting time at *Philadelphia*. I never yet heard of a work of GOD, but some such thing happened. This is my comfort, the government of the church is upon the Redeemer's shoulders; and therefore the gates of hell shall never be able to prevail against it. I hope ere now CHRIST has revealed himself in your heart, and given you the witness of the Spirit. For he that believeth, hath the witness in himself. I suppose you will be glad to hear, that the LORD hath, in a good degree, delivered me from the embarrassments with which I was environed when you embarked. GOD was then preparing me for further mercies. We must be humbled before we are exalted. I suppose you have heard of my marriage. The LORD hath given me a daughter of *Abraham*; she joins in sending love to you and all, with, dear Mr. *R*———,

Your affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXCIV.

To Mr. G——— T———.

Glouceſter, Feb. 5, 1742.

Reverend and dear Brother,

ON *Tueſday* I received yours. I bleſs GOD for delivering brother *R*——— out of the hands of his enemies. I am perſuaded he will deliver your brother *William* alſo. By your deſertion and temptations, I believe GOD is preparing you for a freſh work. I believe you would be better, if you would always evangelize. I ſhall write to ſome friends about Mr. *C*———'s principles. I thank you for your kind caution. My miſtakes often humble me. Never did JESUS ſend out a more weak and worthleſs wretch. I have not freedom now to continue writing a journal as uſual. I ſhall proceed, for the future, in a more compendious way. Since I wrote the incloſed, we have ſeen a glorious appearance of the Son of Man. O infinite condeſcenſion! The LORD is with me. That he may be abundantly with you, and bleſs your labours more and more, is the hearty prayer of, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate and loving, though
moſt unworthy brother in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCXCV.

To Mr. B———, at Philadelphia.

Dear Mr. B———, *Glouceſter, Feb.* 5, 1742.

I Was much rejoiced to receive a letter from your hands. Bleſſed be GOD for carrying on the work, which, I hope, was begun in your heart long ago! I truſt you will never reſt till you are poſſeſſed of the whole mind which was in CHRIST JESUS. He is our pattern; and if we have true grace in our hearts, we ſhall be continually labouring to copy after our great exemplar. O the life of JESUS! How little of it is to be ſeen in thoſe that call themſelves his followers. Humility, meekneſs, love, peace, joy, goodneſs, faith, and the other bleſſed fruits of the Spirit, whither are they fled? I fear moſt take

take up with the ſhadow, inſtead of the ſubſtance. GOD forbid that I, or dear Mr. *B*———, ſhould be of that unhappy number. Dear Sir, there is an unſpeakable fulneſs, unſearchable riches in CHRIST. Out of him we are to receive grace for grace. Every grace that was in the Redeemer, is to be tranſcribed and copied into our hearts. This is Chriſtianity; and without this, though we could diſpute with the utmoſt clearneſs, and talk like angels, of the doctrines of grace, it would profit us nothing. To prevent the growth of this inward life, I am perſuaded ſatan introduces hereſies in the church, hoping thereby to ſtir up ſtrife, envy, prejudice, and narrowneſs of ſpirit; and where theſe are, there will be every evil work. To this end, *ſinleſs perfection* hath been propagated in *England*, and *Antinomian principles* ſuffered to be ſpread among you. But, bleſſed be GOD, both in *England*, and with you, I truſt diſputations and diſtractions are abated, and love and unity once more are lifting up their heads. This, at preſent, is the language of my heart:

Lee us find out the ancient way,
Our wond'ring foes to move;
And force the heathen world to ſay,
See how theſe Chriſtians love.

"Love is of GOD; and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in GOD." I am glad you are erecting a ſociety to promote this love. Fear not the ſmallneſs of your beginning. What is begun in the fear of GOD, he will proſper. I believe them to be true followers of JESUS CHRIST; and though we agree not in all things, yet I pray GOD to make us one in heart. Now, dear Mr. *B*———, what ſhall I ſay more. The bleſſed JESUS has been ſuperabundantly good to my ſoul ſince my arrival. I have been carried, though through much weakneſs, as on eagles wings. In *England*, *Wales*, and *Scotland*, GOD hath bleſſed my poor labours more than ever. The calls to divers places, are loud and importunate; and, as GOD has raiſed up many labourers among you, I think it my duty to ſtay here ſome time longer, and to viſit *Scotland* once more. However, my friends abroad are continually upon my heart. I pray GOD for you night and day. May the LORD fill you with all his fulneſs! I deſire to be remembered

bered to all mentioned in your's, and to all that love the LORD JESUS. I love you unfeignedly, and entreat you to write again to, dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXCVI.

To the Reverend Mr. C———, at Bath.

Glouceſter, Feb. 5, 1742.

My dear Friend and Brother,

TO ſhew you how willing I am to comply with your requeſt, and make dear Mr. *C*——— one of my cloſe correſpondents, I ſit down this evening to write an anſwer to your kind letter. What has been doing lately, the tranſcript on the other ſide will ſhew you. Since the writing of that, the bleſſed JESUS hath been wondrous kind. Yeſterday I preached three times, and viſited a private ſociety in the evening. To-day I was enabled to preach three times, with great power. Here is ſuch an awakening in this country, as I never heard of, or ſaw in theſe parts before: "The fields are white already unto harveſt." It is pleaſant to hear the people come and tell how GOD wrought upon them by my unworthy miniſtry two years ago. The fruits of the Spirit are now apparent in their lives and converſations. Letters from *Scotland* bring bleſſed tidings, as alſo from *Philadelphia*. O the bleſſed effects of field-preaching! O that I was humble, that I was thankful! Help me, my dear friend, to entreat the Redeemer to make me as a little, *a very little child*. The beginning of next week I hope to be at *Bath*; but cannot tell exactly the day. I thank my friends for their kind intention to meet me, but I had rather avoid it: the leſs parade the better. Let us ſtand ſtill, and we ſhall ſee the ſalvation of GOD. He will not bleſs what doth not come from himſelf. May the LORD make me an *Iſraelite* indeed, in whom is no allowed guile! I am glad dear Mr. *T*—— is coming. My hearty love to him. O that our meeting may be bleſſed, and all three of us be made a flame of fire! Dear Mr. *C*———, I love you unfeignedly. I wiſh, above all things, your ſoul may proſper. Good night. My ſoul is filled

with JESUS's love. I am going to pray for you and yours, being, dear Mr. *C*———, without diſſimulation,

Yours moſt affectionately in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXCVII.

To the Right Honourable the ————.

Thales, near Reading, Feb. 23, 1742.

AND does the dear ———— know aſſuredly that JESUS hath died for him? Sing, O heavens! Rejoice, O earth! I would join with angels and archangels in ſinging "Glory to GOD on high." Welcome, my ——, into the world of new creatures. You are infinitely more happy than thoſe who have lately been preferred, and kiſſed his Majeſty's hand. JESUS hath holden out his golden ſceptre, and given you a patent for eternal life. Methinks I hear your ———— now ſaying, "I account the reproach of CHRIST, of more value than all the riches of *Egypt*."

Be gone, vain world, my heart reſign,
For I can be no longer thine;
A nobler, a diviner gueſt,
Hath took poſſeſſion of my breaſt.

Well may your ———— ſay, "you have been in a dream." When GOD firſt ſhewed me that I muſt be a new creature, I awaked as it were, into a new world. I ſtood quite amazed. I was aſtoniſhed to think, what a deep ſleep the world around me was in. Thought I, O that I was made inſtrumental to ſome of them! The LORD heard my prayer. He has ſent me to awaken the dear man I am now writing to. Not unto me, O GOD, not unto me, but to thy free grace and rich mercy be all the glory! With your Lordſhip's letter to-day, came ſeveral others from different parts, all with glad tidings of great joy. O that I was humble and thankful! Why me, LORD, why me? Surely I will join with your ———— in ſaying, not becauſe I choſe GOD, but GOD (O infinitely condeſcending majeſty!) did chuſe me. What ſhall we render to the glorious *Emmanuel?* Methinks I hear your ———— ſaying, "Behold, LORD, henceforward I look upon myſelf as

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a ſteward, and not as a proprietor of thy manifold gifts; I will live no longer to myſelf, but to him that died for me." Amen, LORD JESUS, amen and amen! Be pleaſed to excuſe the defects of this, being written upon the road. I am now going to *London*. There has been a great awakening lately in *Glouceſterſhire*. I rejoice to hear that the lady —— is ſo well diſpoſed. May a church be always in your ——— houſe; and every one of your ——— family be made a living member of the houſhold of faith! No greater thing can be deſired in your behalf by, my ——,

Your ——— moſt obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXCVIII.

To the Right Honourable Lady M—— H———.

Thales, (near Reading) Feb. 23, 1742.

Honoured Madam,

I Am now upon the road to *London*. This morning your acceptable letter came to hand. Though ſomewhat wearied, I would fain anſwer it before I retire to reſt. Bleſſed be GOD who cauſes your Ladyſhip to be never leſs alone, than when alone. O Madam, what a comforter is the Holy Ghoſt? What ſweet company is JESUS CHRIST? What a privilege is it to have fellowſhip with the great Three-One? A world lying in wickedneſs knows nothing of it. Every thing yields comfort when the bleſſed Spirit breathes upon it. Even this ſcribble, from the chief of ſinners, from one who is leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints, ſhall again refreſh your ſoul, if JESUS ſpeaks the word. Amazed am I, that GOD ſhould work by my hands. But JESUS is love. He yet delights to honour me. I have lately ſeen the Redeemer riding in his ſtrength, and getting himſelf the victory in poor ſinners hearts. Letters from abroad inform me of the ſame. O that our glorious JESUS may ſet the world in a flame of love! Haſten that time, O bleſſed JESUS: O let thy kingdom come! I have heard from my dear Orphans to-day. They have been reduced to ſtraits; but the LORD hath ſtirred up a wealthy friend or two to aſſiſt them. The everlaſting GOD reward all their benefactors! I find there has been a freſh awakening

among them. I am informed, that twelve negroes, belonging to a planter lately converted at the Orphan-houſe, are ſavingly brought home to JESUS CHRIST. This will rejoice your Ladyſhip's heart. I am glad to hear that the work goes on in *Scotland*. The LORD, I truſt, will ripen your ſoul apace for glory. He hath various ways of perfecting his ſaints. Methinks I ſee your Ladyſhip ſitting in your chair, and raviſhed with the Redeemer's beauty day by day. Sometimes you are as it were waſhing his feet with your tears; at other times ſitting by faith at his feet, and hearing or reading his word. Sometimes your heart is too big to ſpeak; then again, out of the abundance of your heart, your mouth poureth forth hallelujahs. Sometimes you are loſt in wonder; at all times longing to be diſſolved and to be with CHRIST; for, when you hear him ſay, "Riſe up, my love, and come away,"

Your heart would fain outfly the wind,
And leave all earthly loves behind.

This, I truſt, is the life your Ladyſhip lives. This is life indeed. They who live otherwiſe, are dead whilſt they live. They call for our compaſſion and prayers; for who hath made the difference? Diſtinguiſhing grace! O the unſearchable riches of CHRIST? I could ſpeak of him for ever; but it grows late: nature calls for reſt.

O when ſhall I in endleſs day,
For ever chaſe dark ſleep away;
And hymns with the celeſtial quire
Inceſſant ſing, and never tire?

Come, LORD JESUS, come quickly! The LORD be with your ſpirit, and abundantly bleſs both you, Mr. *H*———, and your child. Indeed I do not forget your Ladyſhip; your laſt ſhould not have remained ſo long unanſwered, but it came only to-day into the hands of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCXCIX.

To Mr. Thomas N——, at New-York.

London, Feb. 26, 1742.

My very dear Brother,

I Have herewith ſent you a parcel. Be pleaſed to read the letters, and ſend them as directed. I received your kind letter, dated in *December*, and thank you for all kindneſſes ſhewn to the poor orphans. The LORD JESUS will richly reward you. Before yours came, the LORD had given me an enlarged heart, and unfeigned love and freedom to converſe with all his dear children, of whatever denomination. I talk freely with the Meſſrs. *W*———'s, though we widely differ in a certain point. Moſt talk of a catholic ſpirit; but it is only till they have brought people into the pale of their own church. This is downright ſectarianiſm, not catholiciſm. How can I act conſiſtently, unleſs I receive and love all the children of GOD, whom I eſteem to be ſuch, of whatever denomination they may be? Why ſhould we diſpute when there is no probability of convincing? I think this is not giving up the faith, but fulfilling our LORD's new command, "Love one another:" and our love is but feigned, unleſs it produces proper effects. I am perſuaded, the more the love of GOD is ſhed abroad in our hearts, the more all narrowneſs of ſpirit will ſubſide and give way: beſides, ſo far as we are narrow ſpirited, we are uneaſy. Prejudices, jealouſies, and ſuſpicions make the ſoul miſerable, ſo far as they are entertained. But enough of this: my dear brother *N*—— is of my mind. Only let me give you one caution: Take heed that your getting acquainted with any new ſet of Chriſtians, does not lead you inſenſibly to deſpiſe others of your old acquaintance. Watch, and deal very tenderly with all; otherwiſe you will grow reſerved and artful, and loſe a ſimple, open, guileleſs, *Iſraelitiſh* ſpirit, before you are aware. There needs a cloſe adherence to the motions of the Holy Spirit, and a conſtant watching over the corruptions of our own hearts, in order that we may walk before GOD as very little children. O that I was a little child indeed! JESUS can make me one. My dear brother, I thank you for your kind invitation. GOD

willing, I shall accept it, if ever I see *New-York*. But I think Providence calls me once more to *Scotland*. I have been lately plowing up some fallow ground, and now preach twice every day. The LORD does indeed bless the word, and gives me to rejoice in the felicity of his chosen. Be so kind now and then to drop a line to my dear orphan-family. As opportunity offers, and the LORD gives freedom, you shall hear from, dear brother *N*———,

Yours most affectionately in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCC.

To Miss ——— ———, *at Edinburgh.*

Dear Miss, *London, Feb.* 27, 1742.

I Did not receive your letter till this night. Whilst I was reading it, my heart grew warm with thankfulness to that GOD, who, I trust, by his almighty Spirit hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. In his light you now see light. Do you not, dear Miss *W*———, find what I said to be true, "That JESUS CHRIST is the fairest among ten thousands." Is he not altogether lovely? Henceforth you may well say,

I bid this world of noise and show,
With all its flattering snares, adieu.

The greater advances you make in the divine life, the more you will see what a dream you and the polite world have been in. And O the distinguishing grace of GOD to you! Methinks I hear you calling on angels and archangels to join in praising our common LORD. Well may you say, "You are not henceforth your own:" No, dear Miss, let JESUS have your whole heart. Let his blood, his wounds be continually before you. GOD forbid that you should now glory, save in the cross of CHRIST, by whom the world is crucified to you, and you unto the world. Pity the poor christless creatures about you. Pray for them, as the Holy Spirit gives you freedom. Tell them of the love of JESUS. They need no other motive. This, backed with almighty power, must break the most hardened heart. With much pleasure I reflect on

the bleſſed conſolations I have been favoured with, whilſt explaining the ſcriptures to you and your honoured relations. O that not one may remain unconverted! May JESUS look on them; then will they look on him and be ſaved. Bleſſed be GOD for ſending me to *Scotland*, if it was only to bring you home. Ere long I hope to viſit your country again; and then, O that I may ſee you all meek, humble, heavenly-minded, cloſe followers of the bleeding Lamb! Thanks be to GOD, he hath directed me to a wife, who was once gay, but now with you can ſing,

I.

Come, Saviour JESUS, *from above,*
Aſſiſt me with thy heavenly grace;
Withdraw my heart from worldly love,
And for thyſelf prepare the place.

II.

O let thy ſacred preſence fill,
And ſet my longing ſpirit free;
Which pants to have no other love,
But night and day to feaſt on Thee.

III.

That path with humble ſpeed I'll ſeek,
Wherein my Saviour's footſteps ſhine;
Nor will I hear, nor will I ſpeak
Of any other love but thine.

IV.

To Thee my ling'ring ſoul aſpires;
To Thee I offer all my vows;
Keep me from vain and falſe deſires,
My GOD, *my Saviour, and my ſpouſe.*

V.

Wealth, honour, or whatever elſe
This tranſitory world can give,
Tempt as you will, my heart repels,
To CHRIST *alone reſolved to live.*

VI.

Thee I can love, and thee alone,
With inward joy and holy bliſs;
To find thou tak'ſt me for thy own,
O what a happineſs is this!

Dear

Dear Miſs, whilſt I am writing, the love of JESUS fills my ſoul. I have been talking to night of his love to poor ſinners. O that his ſpirit may break afreſh upon your ſoul when you are reading this! I muſt now commend you to the Redeemer's care. In the world you ſhall have tribulation; be not afraid, JESUS hath overcome the world. — I have many letters before me unread; but I could not help writing this long one to you. Accept it as a token of unfeigned regard for the good of your precious ſoul, and depend on the prayers of, dear Miſs *W*——,

Your moſt affectionate friend and
ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCCI.

To the Reverend Mr. C———.

London, March 4, 1742.

My dear Friend and Brother,

I Remember my promiſe. You are to be one of my cloſe correſpondents. I am unworthy to write to any; but love, the love of JESUS will conſtrain me frequently to write to you. I hope you are not offended, becauſe you did not ſee me in *Bath* again. The glorious *Emmanuel* pointed out my way hither. Since I came (O amazing goodneſs!) he has been wonderfully kind to me, and to his people. I am much aſſiſted daily, in preaching to poor ſinners the unſearchable riches of CHRIST. Life and power fly all around, and the Redeemer is getting himſelf the victory daily in many hearts. Letters from abroad give me glorious accounts. In *New-England*, the work goes on amazingly. In *Scotland*, the awakening is greater and greater. The ſpirit of GOD has been ſtriving among the little orphans in *Georgia*, and in *Carolina* I hear that twelve negroes belonging to a planter, converted at the Orphan-houſe, are ſavingly brought home to JESUS CHRIST. Indeed the LORD is about to do great things. "Bleſſed are the eyes that ſee the things which we ſee; bleſſed are the ears that hear the things that we hear;" bleſſed are thoſe that the LORD employs as his own children, to bring about his great deſigns. O that my dear Mr. *C*—— may be made a flaming fire, and a ſpiritual father to thouſands!

ſands! Dear Mr. *T*——, who was ſo kind as to come and ſee me laſt night, I truſt is coming on. I hope both you and him will experience a ſolid eſtabliſhment in the grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST. There is no reſt here, no true ſolid laſting reſt, till we come to this. Our hearts are deceitful above all things. We ſeek reſt in outward things. We change our places, circumſtances, and ſtations;—but if JESUS loves us, he will put a thorn in the place where we would fain neſtle. A ſoul that has had ſome awakenings, and been wandring from CHRIST, is like *Noah*'s dove which could find no reſt for the ſole of its foot, till it came back to the ark again. This ark is CHRIST, and when we are ſafely locked in there, and the ſoul hath received an abiding witneſs, then out of the abundance of the heart the mouth ſpeaketh. This is the reaſon why JESUS bid his diſciples to wait for the promiſe of the Father. Filled with this, the woman of *Samaria* could not but call on others to come and ſee. And were we but animated, led and influenced by this ſpirit, what a bleſſed union would there be among all the churches of JESUS CHRIST? It is a want of more of this, that now at preſent diſunites us. I deſpair therefore of a greater union, till a greater meaſure of the ſpirit be poured from on high. Hence, therefore, I am reſolved ſimply to preach the goſpel of CHRIST, and leave others to quarrel by and with themſelves. To contend, where there is no probability of convincing, only feeds and adds fuel to an unhallow'd fire, which a miſguided zeal kindles in the heart. Love, forbearance, long-ſuffering, and frequent prayer to your dear LORD JESUS, is the beſt way to extinguiſh and put it out. O love, true, ſimple, chriſtian, undiſſembled love, whither art thou fled! The language of my heart is,—But whither am I going? You ſee, my friend, how freely I write. The bleſſed JESUS warms and fills me, whilſt I am writing. I know, though I am unworthy, you will ſend me a line in return. Methinks I could waſh your feet. Methinks, I long to ſee your ſhackles drop off, and your ſoul free for the uninterrupted ſervice of the beſt of maſters. Faith in his bloody wounds is the only means. LORD, evermore give my dear friend and his wife living faith, which may purify their hearts, enable them to overcome the world, and will

work

work by love! The LORD make you both as little children before him! This is the prayer of, dear Mr. *C*——,

Yours affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCII.

To Mr. A——.

Dear Mr. A——, *London, March* 4, 1742.

I Received your comfortable letter concerning the dear lambs at *Heriot*'s hospital. I pray GOD give you grace to feed them, that they may grow in grace as they grow in years, and make perpetual advances in the knowledge of JESUS CHRIST. Be pleased to salute them from me, in the kindest manner. Entreat them, O exhort them to remember their Creator in the days of their youth, and to keep close by his wounded side. Tell them, dear Sir, from time to time, of the power and efficacy of his all-atoning blood: it purifies the heart, overcomes the world, and fills the believer with joy unspeakable and full of glory. Watch over their dear souls day by day, and wait closely upon the LORD yourself, that you may be taught of him to feed his lambs. It is a work of the utmost importance. No less than infinite wisdom can be sufficient for you; but if any man lack wisdom, let him ask it from above; GOD giveth liberally to the lovers of his dear Son, and upbraideth not. Dear Sir, GOD is love. He hath loved me, and is pleased to work by me more and more. At home, and abroad, JESUS CHRIST rides on gloriously. I hope, at my return to *Scotland*, to see greater things than ever. When it shall be, I know not yet. GOD's people must pray me to them. With difficulty I get time to write this. I once more salute you and the dear lambs, and am, dear Sir,

Your most affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCIII.

To Mr. J—— *K*——, *at Exon.*

Dear Sir, *London, March* 6, 1742.

I Now snatch a few moments to answer your kind letter. As yet, I have no intimation from providence in respect to coming

coming into your parts. The cloud at preſent doth not ſeem to move that way. So many places want ſupplies, that I could wiſh I had a thouſand lives and tongues. JESUS CHRIST ſhould have them all. Only I am aſtoniſhed, that the LORD of the harveſt ſhould ſend out ſuch a worthleſs labourer, or rather loiterer as I am. But his grace is free, like himſelf infinite; "For to me, who am leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints, is this grace given, that I ſhould preach to poor ſinners the unſearchable riches of CHRIST." Bleſſed be GOD, I do not preach in vain. The accounts from *New-England*, *Scotland*, and *Carolina*, are ſurprizing. In *London*, the word of the LORD runs and is glorified. Every day we ſee the Redeemer's ſtately ſteps. I have not time, dear Sir, to tell you what great things our great maſter is doing for his people, and yet I believe we ſhall ſee greater things than theſe. From *Georgia* alſo, I have great accounts. The ſpirit of the LORD hath been breathing upon the orphans. I thank you, dear Sir, for your intended benefaction, and kind invitation. If ever our dear LORD calls me your way, I ſhall accept it: though I am utterly unworthy to come under any one's roof, but more eſpecially that JESUS ſhould come under the roof of the houſe of my ſoul.—But JESUS is love. That his love may be abundantly ſhed abroad in your heart, by the Holy Ghoſt, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate friend and ſervant unknown,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCIV.

To Mr. G—— H——, in Glouceſter.

Dear Mr. H——, *London, March, 12, 1742.*

BY no means leave off reading to the ſociety. It is not taking too much upon you, or going out of your depth. The cauſe of your ſo much as thinking to decline, is not good. The more unworthy you are, the more glory will you give to a glorious Redeemer: the greater ſinner you are, the more feelingly will you read of, and recommend the glorious Ranſom paid for ſinners. Go on, my dear man; venture boldly to the throne of grace; fear not.—GOD will heal our backſlidings; he loves us freely. JESUS hath been my glorious Saviour. I would have mentioned this affair of the ſociety in my laſt, but I was then ignorant

ignorant of it.—My dear wife has written to dear Mrs. *H*——. How does the dear woman as to ſpirituals? I do not deſpair of ſeeing you both good chriſtians. JESUS is almighty. Go to him juſt as you are. The LORD be with you both! I ſuppoſe you have ſeen the letter ſent to dear M. *C*—— by brother *S*——. My tender love to him, and all that love the bleſſed *Emmanuel*. I have ſeen Mr. *J*——. The LORD is wonderfully good to me. Pray ſend a line to, dear Sir,

Yours affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCV.

To Miſs R———.

Dear Miſs, *London, March* 18, 1742.

I Am yet of opinion, there is mercy and love laid up for you in the heart of the bleſſed JESUS. You look backward, inſtead of forward. You look into yourſelf, inſtead of looking up to Him, who is mighty and willing to ſave. O that you may have ſtrength to go to him juſt as you are! You would then be delivered from your bondage. The caſe of the poor *Syrophænician* woman may give you comfort. How did the Lamb of GOD ſeem as it were to turn lion? How did he ſeem to turn a deaf ear to her complaints? And yet heard and loved her all the while. Why may not you believe? He will yet ſay to you, "Be it unto you even as thou wilt." I fear ſome tell you, that it is well to doubt. Indeed they are miſtaken. Dear Miſs, expect great things from JESUS CHRIST. "He is able to do abundantly for you above what you can aſk or think." His name, his nature is Love. Fear not; be not faithleſs, but believing. Wait, and you ſhall yet ſee the ſalvation of GOD. In JESUS there is plenteous redemption. That you may feel the full power of his blood, prays, dear Miſs,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCVI.

To Mr. W———, in Briſtol.

London, April 6, 1742.

My dear, yea very dear Brother,

YOU muſt needs think, that your kind letter gave me no ſmall pleaſure. Glory be to GOD for that rich love wherewith he hath loved you! Surely JESUS CHRIST will be now exceeding precious to your dear ſoul. What does he now require of you, but to walk humbly, cloſely, and with a child-like ſimplicity before him? He hath followed you, as well as prevented you with his mercies, and would ſuffer nothing to take you out of his hands. Satan hath deſired you, ſatan has ſifted you as wheat; but JESUS, that friend of ſinners, hath prayed for you, and therefore your faith hath not failed. The LORD hath looked upon my dear *Samuel.* Methinks I ſee him weeping tears of love, and ſaying, "*Speak,* LORD, *thy ſervant heareth* now."

I doubt not but many will reproach you for your paſt backſliding, and queſtion your future ſtability. Let all ſerve to humble you in the duſt, and drive you to the loving JESUS for refuge. "In him," ſurely ſhall my dear friend ſay, "I have righteouſneſs and ſtrength." Look up to him, and you ſhall be delivered from, nay, made more than conqueror over every temptation. He will fight your battles for you, and crown you when you have done. Dear Mr. *W*——, the love of JESUS now ſwallows up my ſoul. I ſee him more and more lovely every day. In JESUS there is plenteous redemption. He came, that we might have life, nay that we might have it more abundantly. O what a bleſſing is it to be redeemed from a vain converſation, and from this preſent evil world. O that every poor ſinner felt it! Then would his children agree in one, and diviſions would be at an end. Bleſſed be our LORD, there is a greater proſpect of union than ever. It is what my ſoul longs after, and labours for. It is a great pity that poor pilgrims ſhould fall out in their way to heaven; but this will be, till we get more of the divine ſpirit. Pray we therefore for a great effuſion of the Holy Ghoſt. Bleſſed be GOD,

we

we feel the Holy Ghoſt daily in our congregations. It ſurprizes me to ſee what a company of ſettled, ſolid chriſtians are amongſt us. The work goes on daily. This morning, how did JESUS pierce and melt poor ſinners hearts? Amazing accounts are brought from abroad.—Freſh awakenings in many places at home. Does not your ſoul long to tell ſinners, JESUS is Love. I am glad to hear you are ſo active. Go on in the ſtrength of the triumphing Lamb. My heart is warm. Welcome home again, my dear friend, welcome to JESUS your LORD and your GOD. Pray write often, dear Mr. *W*——, to

Your moſt affectionate friend, brother and
ſervant in the glorious *Emmanuel*,
G. W.

LETTER CCCCVII.

To Mr. O———, *in Leominſter.*

My dear Brother, *London*, *April* 6, 1742.

YOUR letter gave me uncommon pleaſure, and confirm'd me more in the opinion, that where our LORD gives a will, he will alſo give an opportunity of glorifying his great and moſt adorable name. Indeed, I believe there is ſuch a work begun, as neither we nor our fathers have heard of. The beginnings are amazing; how unſpeakably glorious will the end be! From *New-England*, freſh and ſurprizing glad tidings are ſent; the LORD takes poor ſinners there by hundreds, I may ſay by thouſands. In *Scotland*, the fruits of my poor labours are abiding and apparent. In *Wales*, I hear the word of the LORD runs and is glorified, as alſo in many places in *England*. In *London*, our Saviour is doing great things daily; we have many dear growing children among us, who can ſay, "Our fellowſhip is with the Father and the Son." We ſcarce know what it is to have a meeting without tears. Our LORD always meets with us. My dear brother, I rejoice to hear that you are helped in your work. Let this encourage you; go on, go on; the more we do, the more we may do for JESUS. I ſleep and eat but little, and am conſtantly employed from morning till midnight, and yet I walk and am not weary, I run and am not faint. My ſtrength is daily renewed. My bow abides in ſtrength, and my hands

are

are upholden by the arms of the mighty GOD of Jacob. O free grace! It fires my ſoul, and makes me long to do ſomething more for JESUS. It is true indeed, I want to go home; but here are ſo many ſouls ready to periſh for lack of knowledge, that I am willing to tarry below, as long as my maſter hath work for me to do.—When I ſhall come your way, I cannot determine.—All I ſay is, I will come when the LORD gives me leave. At preſent my call is in *London*, where I propoſe ſtaying for ſome time. My wife came up laſt *Saturday*, and joins with me in wiſhing you all manner of ſucceſs. I am, my dear brother,

Yours moſt affectionately in our glorious *Emmanuel*,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCVIII.

To Mr. J—— C——, in Glouceſterſhire.

London, April 8, 1742.

Dear Mr. J—— C——,

YOURS came to hand laſt night. I rejoice to hear that the LORD is with you, and that he was pleaſed to bleſs my poor labours in *Glouceſterſhire*. I would have you to diſpute as little as poſſible. Awakened ſouls ſhould be told to look continually to the LORD JESUS. The more you are acquainted with CHRIST, and the more deeply you drink into his ſpirit, the more ſolid you will grow. Fear not becauſe of your preſent trials; "the LORD is thy GOD; he will never leave thee nor forſake thee." Caſt all your care upon him, he careth for you. Your wife's illneſs ſhall work for good. The things I promiſed, are provided and ſhall be ſent ſpeedily. Brother *H*—— will be with you, GOD willing, next week; I pray GOD that his coming may be in the fulneſs of the bleſſing of the goſpel of peace! Our LORD is with us much here. I preach twice daily. Our ſociety grows. My maſter fills me with his preſence, and continually meets with us. My tender love awaits all the ſociety. Be ſtrong in the LORD, and in the power of his might. Seek after a nearer

nearer conformity to the bleſſed JESUS. Grow in grace; and as you are enabled, dear *John*, pray for

Your affectionate friend, brother,
and ſervant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCCIX.

To Captain G——, in Philadelphia.

Dear Brother G——, *London, April* 22, 1742.

I Hope this will find you very happy in the love of CHRIST. I was glad to hear you had ſo good a time, before our friends left you. I wiſh you no leſs, than that you may be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD. We have had a glorious *Eaſter*, or rather a *Pentecoſt*. JESUS CHRIST is riſen indeed. I have been preaching in *Moorfields*, and our Saviour carries all before us. Nought can reſiſt his conquering blood. It would have delighted you, to have ſeen the poor ſinners flock from the booths, to ſee JESUS lifted up on the pole of the goſpel. I have received many tickets from young apprentices, &c. &c. Our ſociety goes on wonderfully well. Every day we hear of freſh conqueſts. GOD's children are expecting very great things. I believe they will not be diſappointed of their hope. But I am in haſte. Your wife was well the laſt time I ſaw her. Brother *S*—— and his wife have been to ſee her.—My dear wife and brother *S*—— kindly ſalute you, and all that love our glorious *Emmanuel*. Pray write a line to, dear brother *G*——,

Yours, &c.
G. W.

LETTER CCCCX.

To the Reverend Mr. J——, in Yorkſhire.

My dear Brother, *London, April* 22, 1742.

I Thank you and your wife for your kind benefaction. Our Saviour, I believe, will take it kindly at your hands. I rejoice that the work of our common maſter is carried on in *Yorkſhire*. We ſee greater things than ever at *London*. The awakening is quite freſh. I never was ſtrengthened more. Every day, poor ſinners are brought home to JESUS CHRIST.

Our

Our people are filled as with new wine; it seems to be a *Pentecost*. I have preached six or seven times in *Moorfields*, these holidays. It would rejoice you to see the people flock from satan's booths to hear the gospel of the Son of GOD. The people seem to have such a spirit of supplication poured out upon them, that I believe we shall see great things. I am often weak in body, but, as my work requires, I am proportionably strengthened in the inner man. Was there ever such a sinner as I am? Was there ever such a Saviour as my Saviour?

Low at thy feet, O JESUS, *let me lie,*
And love and praise to all eternity.

I salute all that love the LORD JESUS in sincerity, and am, dear brother *J*——,

Yours most affectionately in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXI.

To Mr. L——.

London, May 11, 1742.

WITH this, I send you a few out of the many notes I have received from persons, who were convicted, converted, or comforted in *Moorfields*, during the late holidays. For many weeks, I found my heart much pressed to determine to venture to preach there at this season, when, if ever, satan's children keep up their annual rendezvous. I must inform you, that *Moorfields* is a large spacious place, given, as I have been told, by one *Madam Moore*, on purpose for all sorts of people to divert themselves in. For many years past, from one end to the other, booths of all kinds have been erected, for mountebanks, players, puppet shows, and such like. With a heart bleeding with compassion for so many thousands led captive by the devil at his will, on *Whit-Monday*, at six o'clock in the morning, attended by a large congregation of praying people, I ventured to lift up a standard amongst them in the name of JESUS of *Nazareth*. Perhaps there were about ten thousand in waiting, not for me, but for satan's instruments to amuse them.—Glad was I to find, that I had for once as it were got the start of the devil. I mounted

my

my field pulpit, almoſt all flocked immediately around it. I preached on theſe words, "As *Moſes* lifted up the ſerpent in the wilderneſs, ſo ſhall the ſon of man be lifted up, &c." They gazed, they liſtened, they wept; and I believe that many felt themſelves ſtung with deep conviction for their paſt ſins. All was huſhed and ſolemn. Being thus encouraged, I ventured out again at noon; but what a ſcene! The fields, the whole fields ſeemed, in a bad ſenſe of the word, all white, ready not for the Redeemer's, but Beelzebub's harveſt. All his agents were in full motion, drummers, trumpeters, merry andrews, maſters of puppet ſhows, exhibiters of wild beaſts, players, &c. &c. all buſy in entertaining their reſpective auditories. I ſuppoſe there could not be leſs than twenty or thirty thouſand people. My pulpit was fixed on the oppoſite ſide, and immediately, to their great mortification, they found the number of their attendants ſadly leſſened: Judging that like ſaint *Paul*, I ſhould now be called as it were to fight with beaſts at *Epheſus*, I preached from theſe words: "Great is *Diana* of the *Epheſians*." You may eaſily gueſs, that there was ſome noiſe among the craftſmen, and that I was honoured with having a few ſtones, dirt, rotten eggs, and pieces of dead cats thrown at me, whilſt engaged in calling them from their favourite but lying vanities. My ſoul was indeed among lions; but far the greateſt part of my congregation, which was very large, ſeemed for a while to be turned into lambs. This encouraged me to give notice, that I would preach again at ſix o'clock in the evening. I came, I ſaw, but what——thouſands and thouſands more than before if poſſible, ſtill more deeply engaged in their unhappy diverſions; but ſome thouſands amongſt them waiting as earneſtly to hear the goſpel. This ſatan could not brook. One of his choiceſt ſervants was exhibiting, trumpeting on a large ſtage; but as ſoon as the people ſaw me in my black robes and my pulpit, I think all to a man left him and ran to me. For a while I was enabled to lift up my voice like a trumpet, and many heard the joyful ſound. GOD's people kept praying, and the enemy's agents made a kind of a roaring at ſome diſtance from our camp. At length they approached nearer, and the merry andrew, (attended by others, who complained that they had taken many pounds leſs that day on account of my preaching) got

upon a man's ſhoulders, and advancing near the pulpit attempted to ſlaſh me with a long heavy whip ſeveral times, but always with the violence of his motion tumbled down. Soon afterwards, they got a recruiting ſerjeant with his drum, &c. to paſs through the congregation. I gave the word of command, and ordered that way might be made for the king's officer. The ranks opened, while all march'd quietly through, and then cloſed again. Finding thoſe efforts to fail, a large body quite on the oppoſite ſide aſſembled together, and having got a large pole for their ſtandard, advanced towards us with ſteady and formidable ſteps, till they came very near the ſkirts of our hearing, praying, and almoſt undaunted congregation. I ſaw, gave warning, and prayed to the captain of our ſalvation for preſent ſupport and deliverance. He heard and anſwered; for juſt as they approached us with looks full of reſentment, I know not by what accident, they quarrelled among themſelves, threw down their ſtaff and went their way, leaving however many of their company behind, who before we had done, I truſt were brought over to join the beſieged party. I think I continued in praying preaching and ſinging, (for the noiſe was too great at times to preach) about three hours. We then retired to the tabernacle, with my pockets full of notes from perſons brought under concern, and read them amidſt the praiſes and ſpiritual acclamations of thouſands, who joined with the holy angels in rejoicing that ſo many ſinners were ſnatched, in ſuch an unexpected, unlikely place and manner, out of the very jaws of the devil. This was the beginning of the tabernacle ſociety.—Three hundred and fifty awakened ſouls were received in one day, and I believe the number of notes exceeded a thouſand; but I muſt have done, believing you want to retire to join in mutual praiſe and thankſgiving to GOD and the Lamb, with

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXII.

To the same.

My dear Friend, *London, May* 15, 1742.

FRESH matter of praise; bless ye the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously. The battle that was begun on *Monday*, was not quite over till *Wednesday* evening, though the scene of action was a little shifted. Being strongly invited, and a pulpit being prepared for me by an honest quaker, a coal merchant, I ventured on *Tuesday* evening to preach at *Mary le bon fields*, a place almost as much frequented by boxers, gamesters, and such like, as *Moor-fields*. A vast concourse was assembled together, and as soon as I got into the field pulpit, their countenance bespoke the enmity of their hearts against the preacher. I opened with these words—"I am not ashamed of the gospel of CHRIST, for it is the power of GOD unto salvation to every one that believeth." I preached in great jeopardy; for the pulpit being high, and the supports not well fixed in the ground, it tottered every time I moved, and numbers of enemies strove to push my friends against the supporters, in order to throw me down. But the Redeemer stayed my soul on himself, therefore I was not much moved, unless with compassion for those to whom I was delivering my master's message, which I had reason to think, by the strong impressions that were made, was welcome to many. But satan did not like thus to be attacked in his strong-holds, and I narrowly escaped with my life: for as I was passing from the pulpit to the coach, I felt my wig and hat to be almost off. I turned about, and observed a sword just touching my temples. A young rake, as I afterwards found, was determined to stab me, but a gentleman, seeing the sword thrusting near me, struck it up with his cane, and so the destined victim providentially escaped. Such an attempt excited abhorrence; the enraged multitude soon seized him, and had it not been for one of my friends, who received him into his house, he must have undergone a severe discipline. The next day, I renewed my attack in *Moor-fields*; but would you think it? after they found that pelting, noise, and threatnings would not do, one of the *merry Andrews* got up into a tree very near the pulpit,

and ſhamefully expoſed his nakedneſs before all the people. Such a beaſtly action quite abaſhed the ſerious part of my auditory; whilſt hundreds of another ſtamp, inſtead of riſing up to pull down the unhappy wretch, expreſſed their approbation by repeated laughs. I muſt own at firſt it gave me a ſhock; I thought ſatan had now almoſt outdone himſelf; but recovering my ſpirits, I appealed to all, ſince now they had ſuch a ſpectacle before them, whether I had wronged human nature in ſaying, after pious *Biſhop Hall*, "that man, when left to himſelf, is half a devil and half a beaſt;" or as the great Mr. *Law* expreſſed himſelf, "a motley mixture of the beaſt and devil."—Silence and attention being thus gained, I concluded with a warm exhortation, and cloſed our feſtival enterprizes, in reading freſh notes that were put up, praiſing and bleſſing GOD amidſt thouſands at the tabernacle, for what he had done for precious ſouls, and on account of the deliverances he had wrought out for me and his people. I could enlarge; but being about to embark in the *Mary and Ann*, for *Scotland*, I muſt haſten to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

P. S. I cannot help adding, that ſeveral little boys and girls who were fond of ſitting round me on the pulpit, while I preached, and handing to me peoples notes, though they were often pelted with eggs, dirt, &c. thrown at me, never once gave way: but on the contrary, every time I was ſtruck, turned up their little weeping eyes, and ſeemed to wiſh they could receive the blows for me. GOD make them in their growing years great and living martyrs for him, who out of the mouth of babes and ſucklings perfects praiſe!

LETTER CCCCXIII.

To the Rev. Mr. M———, in the Iſle of Man.

On board the Mary and Ann, bound to Scotland, May 26, 1742.

Rev. and dear Sir,

I Received your letter on *Saturday* laſt, and felt great concern on my ſoul, while peruſing it. One thing eſpecially pleaſed me; I found by the contents, that a report I had lately

lately heard concerning you was falſe; for I had heard, that the biſhop ſeeing your zeal, and finding his oppoſition had inflamed, at laſt had ordered the clergy to open the church doors for you, and that now you had done with appearing openly in the defence of the glorious Goſpel. Bleſſed be GOD this is not true! Though I find, both you and your people have been greatly diſcouraged. I ſee no way of extricating yourſelf, but by acting up to the dictates of your own conſcience, and leaving the conſequences to the great head and king of the church. You find, dear Sir, a ſenſible withdrawing of the ſpirit ever ſince you gave way. It would not have been ſo, had you obeyed GOD rather than man. Up then, and be doing, and the LORD will be yet with you. If you cannot preach freely in the *Iſle of Man*, go whitherſoever the LORD ſhall be pleaſed to lead you. Our commiſſion is very extenſive: "Go into all the world, and preach the goſpel to every creature." We want labourers much in *England*. If our aſcended Saviour hath given you popular gifts, and freedom and authority in ſpeaking without notes, you need not fear. He will aſſiſt you from time to time, and make you a bleſſing to many ſouls. Your being a miniſter of the eſtabliſhed church, will be an advantage, and your age alſo will give you yet more authority; but an unction from the Holy One of *Iſrael* is the beſt qualification; I would therefore, dear Sir (if ſuch a one as I, am capable of adviſing) by all means perſuade you to humble yourſelf before the great biſhop of your ſoul, and aſk him again and again what he would have you to do? I am apt to think, he will not reſtore to you the comforts of the Holy Ghoſt, or ſtabliſh you with his free ſpirit, 'till you give up yourſelf ſimply to follow the dictates of his providence and ſpirit. Then let men or devils ſay or do their worſt. How can we know GOD's power unleſs we try it? Not that I would have you, dear friend, do any thing raſhly. No, "he that believeth doth not make haſte." Wait upon the LORD, and he will certainly ſhew you what he would have you to do. I wonder not that your brother's love is grown cold. It is hard for one in his ſtation, unleſs he be thoroughly inured to contempt, and will give GOD leave to act in his own way, to withſtand a whole body of lukewarm, prejudiced, envious, malignant clergy. Theſe, have always been the greateſt oppoſers of true

vital religion. Theſe, were our Saviour's moſt bitter enemies. Theſe, will be ours alſo, if we come forth in his ſpirit, and preach by his power. But bleſſed be GOD, I can ſay by happy experience, our glorious *Emmanuel* will make us more than conquerors over them all. He hath continually fought my battles for me, and I am perſuaded will do ſo to the end. Of late, I have ſeen more of his power and goodneſs than ever, and I truſt we ſhall yet ſee greater things than theſe. I am now once more going to *Scotland*, and purpoſe (GOD willing) the latter end of the year to embark for *America*. Pray let me hear from you, and if poſſible let me have a perſonal interview. I hope this will reach you. In the next, be pleaſed to tell me how to direct, for I have forgotten. The LORD be with you. I wiſh you abundant proſperity in the name of the exalted Redeemer, and am

Your affectionate brother and ſervant, &c.

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXIV.

To Mr. S—— M——, in Gainſborough.

On board the Mary and Ann, May 26, 1742.

My dear Brother,

YOUR letter dated *May* 5th was very agreeable to me. I think it favoured of a true Iſraelitiſh ſpirit, and therefore I find freedom to ſend you a plain and ſimple anſwer. Who *J*—— *H*—— is, I cannot tell. If he was converted by my unworthy miniſtry, or others by his means, let our dear JESUS have all the glory. I ſhall know who they are, at the great day. Mr. *P*——— I know very well. I believe he is a good man, but am not enough acquainted with his proceedings, either wholly to commend or condemn them. Whether he preaches in public, or converſes only in a private manner, I know not. This one thing I know, if he be ſent of GOD, I wiſh him proſperity. The anſwer which our LORD gave to thoſe who forbad ſuch as were caſting out devils in his name, becauſe they followed not with them, makes me particularly cautious, how I interrupt any one that ſeems to ſpeak of JESUS with ſincerity of heart. As for his ſpeaking ſo little againſt the church of England, I cannot diſcommend him for that. I

find it beſt to talk only of JESUS's blood, and the power of his Redemption, and not dwell much on outward things or outward worſhip. When the woman of *Samaria* aſked our LORD, "where men ought to worſhip," he diverted the diſcourſe from the outward to the inward worſhip. "The worſhip of the Father in ſpirit and in truth." Some things may be wrong in the church of *England*, and in this mixed ſtate we muſt never expect to ſee a perfect church, or a perfect man. It is therefore my conſtant aim to agree with all the children of GOD, as far as I can, and not to quarrel though we differ in ſome points. In civil ſociety, one family does not differ with another, becauſe it hath not the ſame orders in every reſpect. Would to GOD we obſerved the ſame rule in ſpirituals. The world falls out enough with us; it is pity we ſhould fall out among ourſelves. My brother, I have written to you out of the fulneſs of my heart; whether I ſhall ſee your face in the fleſh, I know not. At preſent, my call is to *Scotland*.— If the cloud ſhould move towards *Lincolnſhire*, my anſwer is, "LORD, lo I come!" I am quite confounded when I think that ſuch a wretch as I ſhould ever be employed in preaching the everlaſting goſpel. I often fall down under a ſenſe of GOD's diſtinguiſhing mercy, and with awful adoration am frequently made to cry out, "Why me, LORD; why me?" O my brother, help me to praiſe the Lamb of GOD, that taketh away the ſins of the world. A wonderful work is carried on both at home and abroad. I ſhall be glad to hear from you again. Be pleaſed to direct as before. I am, in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST,

Your affectionate friend, brother and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXV.

To Mr. J—— B——, in London.

On board the Mary and Ann, May 27, 1742.

My dear Brother B———,

YOUR letter was ſweet to my heart. Buſineſs prevented my anſwering it on ſhore. Our Saviour is pleaſed at this time to give me leiſure and freedom. I will now endeavour to anſwer it on board. I need not tell you, I love you. GOD has often bore witneſs to our fellowſhip, by giving

us his presence, and filling us as with new wine. What has happened of late to disunite, will in the end, I am persuaded, only promote a closer union. "Out of the eater will come forth meat, and out of the strong will come forth sweetness." Blessed be our Saviour's free grace! I feel my heart more and more enlarged towards, and more and more disposed to love and honour all denominations of believers, than ever I experienced before. In all societies of christians under heaven, there must necessarily be persons of a different standing in the school of CHRIST. Those who are not solidly established in the love of GOD, will fall too much in love with the outward form of their particular church, be it what it will. But as the love of GOD gets the ascendency, the more they will be like him and his holy angels, and consequently rejoice when souls are brought to JESUS, whatever instruments may be made use of for that purpose. If therefore some that you and I know, are too confined (as I believe is too much the case); if they do not preach more frequently, and abound more in good works, I think it is for want of having their hearts more inflamed with the love of GOD, and their graces kept in more constant exercise. To stir up the gift of GOD that is in us, is an apostolical injunction; and if we do not keep upon our watch we shall fall into a false stillness. Nature loves ease; and as a blind zeal often prompts us to speak too much, so tepidity and lukewarmness often cause us to speak too little. Divine wisdom alone, is profitable to direct; and I would be very cautious how I speak, least I should take too much upon me. I love those you mention, from my soul; and all I can say is, "LORD, do thou lead and guide both them and us." We are blind helpless creatures. I wish there was more confidence between us all; but I see that none but the spirit of GOD can outwardly unite us, and therefore I have now given it up into the Redeemer's hand. Only this I pray, that I may be one of the first and not the last in bringing back the king. If I have at any time set improper bounds to the spirit of God, or grieved it in his children, I desire to be very low, and to be broken hearted for it. I am sure it hath not been done willingly. I must own, I have sometimes opposed you, because I think you have made, and are yet making, too much haste. You seem to be like-minded with those, who in our Saviour's

time

time thought that the kingdom of GOD would then come: but you know how our LORD checked them for it, and told them, "it was not for them to know the particular times and ſeaſons of his coming to ſet up his kingdom." I believe with you, that our glorious *Emmanuel* is about to do great things. But how, when, and where, I leave to his divine, ſovereign diſpoſal. I deſire ſtrictly to mind the particular plan aſſigned me; at the ſame time to look about, and ſee what others the wonderful counſellor is pleaſed to employ in other diſtricts: and though they may differ from me in ſome points, I wiſh them abundant proſperity in the name of our common LORD. I am of your mind with reſpect to the church of *England*. This, this is the conſtant, abiding, intenſe language of my heart; "LORD JESUS, let thy kingdom come." You ſee, my dear brother, how fully I write to you. It is becauſe I love you. O that we may be taught to bear one another's burdens, and ſo fulfil the law of CHRIST! May the LORD keep us all from falling out in our way to heaven. Amen and amen! You and yours will join heartily in the ſame petition, with

Your affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXVI.

To the Rev Mr. O——, at Leominſter.

On board the Mary and Ann, May 27, 1742.

My dear Brother,

I Have not till now had time to anſwer your kind letter. I rejoice abundantly in the uſe our dear LORD is beginning to make of you. May he uſe and bleſs you ever more and more. Our LORD loves to encourage faith. They that truſt in him, ſhall find now as well as formerly, that "it ſhall be given them in that hour what they ſhall ſpeak." This I find true by happy experience, and am perſuaded ſhall prove the truth of it more and more. Since my laſt, the captain of our ſalvation has carried me on to freſh conqueſt, and cauſed his people to rejoice exceedingly in his great ſalvation. Our ſociety is in great order. If the LORD gives us a true catholic ſpirit, free from a party ſectarian zeal, we ſhall do well. I am ſorry to hear that there is ſo much narrowneſs among ſome of the

the brethren in *Wales*. Brother *H*—— complains ſadly of it. I hope dear Mr. *O*—— will be kept free, and not fall into diſputing about *Baptiſm* or other non-eſſentials; for I am perſuaded, unleſs we all are content to preach CHRIST, and to keep off from diſputable things, wherein we differ, GOD will not bleſs us long. If we act otherwiſe, however we may talk of a catholic ſpirit, we ſhall only be bringing people over to our own party, and there fetter them. I pray the LORD to keep dear Mr. *O*—— and me from ſuch a ſpirit. Dear Sir, may the LORD be with you! Remember us poor but willing pilgrims, eſpecially him who is leſs than the leaſt of all, but

Your affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXVII.

To the Rev. Mr. J—— S——, at Stockport.

On board the Mary and Ann, May 29, 1742.

Rev. and dear Sir,

I Received your letter ſome time ago, but through multiplicity of buſineſs could not poſſibly anſwer it on ſhore. I do not remember ſeeing you at *London*; but if you love the Redeemer in ſincerity, and preach the goſpel in the demonſtration of the ſpirit and with power, I wiſh you all poſſible ſucceſs in the name of the LORD. As for coming into your parts, it is intirely uncertain. My preſent call is to *Scotland*. How my Maſter will diſpoſe of me hereafter, I know not. I ſimply deſire to go whither he ſhall be pleaſed to call me. I am amazed that he ſhould call me any where, or employ me as his ambaſſador to beſeech poor ſinners to be reconciled to GOD. But what ſhall we ſay? I can only fall down at the feet of the Lamb, and cry, Grace! grace! Of late the LORD hath done greater things for me, and his church, than ever; and yet greater things I am perſuaded he is about to bring to paſs. Dear Sir, help me at the throne of grace, and as you ſeem to have a thirſt for the Redeemer's glory, recommend me to the prayers of GOD's people, being the chief of ſinners, but, for the Redeemer's ſake,

Your moſt affectionate friend, brother and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. D——, in Eſſex.

My very dear Brother, *May* 29, 1742.

YOUR letter lies by me, yet unanſwered; the contents however have not been forgotten before the LORD. Surely the days of your pilgrimage will ere long be ended, and the ſtar which you once ſaw, appear to you again, and cauſe you to rejoice with exceeding great joy. I think there is ſomething very extraordinary in the LORD's dealing with you. I can only reſolve it into the divine ſovereignty, and ſay, "even ſo, Father, for ſo it ſeemeth good in thy ſight." This is often the language of my heart, with reſpect to GOD's dealing with my own ſoul. Many things our Saviour does to me, which I know not now. It is ſufficient that I ſhall know hereafter, and that I know thus far even now, "that all things are working together for good." Dear Mr. *D*——, indeed I love and pray for you. Our Saviour, I truſt, will yet ſet your feet in a large room, and enable you to run the way of his commandments;

Thro' winds, and clouds, and ſtorms, he'll gently clear the way;
Wait then his time, ſo ſhall this night ſoon end in joyous day.

My tender love await the flock at *D*———*m*; I pray for them and you. Our Saviour hath done great things of late in *London*. I believe he will yet do more in *Scotland*. O my brother, forget not to pray for the chief of ſinners.

Your truly affectionate friend, brother
and ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXIX.

To the Rev. Mr. C——, at Bath.

On board the Mary and Ann, May 29, 1742.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

NOT want of love, but exceſs of buſineſs prevented my anſwering your kind letter dated *April* 6th. In *London* I had ſcarce time to eat bread, or to take my natural reſt.

Our

Our bleſſed Saviour, with his own right hand got himſelf the victory in many hearts, and brought mighty things to paſs. I never ſaw the like before. I muſt renew my old requeſt. "Help, my dear friend, help me to be thankful." I am now going a ſecond time to *Scotland*, and purpoſe, GOD willing, at the latter end of the year to embark for *America*. My ſoul is a thirſt for the ſalvation of poor ſinners. Theſe words, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the goſpel to every creature, &c," have been particularly preſſed upon my heart. O, dear Mr. *C*——, if the LORD has accounted us worthy, putting us into the miniſtry, how careful ſhould we be to make full proof thereof? GOD willing, when I come on ſhore I will begin in earneſt. For alas! *hactenus nihil feci*.—Indeed I am aſhamed of myſelf from the bottom of my heart. Was not my Maſter's love like himſelf, *infinite*, I ſhould have been caſt off long before this time. But I find thoſe whom he loves, he loves to the end. Mr. *W*——, myſelf, and others, are inſtances of this. I hope our great Shepherd will now carry him in his arms, and not let him to ſtay again. I have wrote to Mr. *T*—— from on board.—If you go to him, or labour elſewhere, that the bleſſed JESUS may be always with you, is the hearty prayer of, dear Mr. *C*——,

Your moſt affectionate brother and ſervant
in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXX.

To Mr. J—— H——, in London.

On board the Mary and Ann, May 29, 1742.

Dear Sir,

YOUR letter much affected me. I hope the contents have made the angels to rejoice, and that before this time you have found reſt in the wounded Lamb. That GOD, who firſt ſpoke light out of darkneſs, I truſt is beginning to ſhine into your heart, and to perfect a new creation in your ſoul. You are not the firſt, dear friend, by thouſands, who have thought themſelves rich and increaſed in goods, not conſidering they were poor and miſerable and blind and naked. I ſuppoſe you can now join with me in the following verſes:

Long

I.

Long did my ſoul in Jeſu's form
No comelineſs nor beauty ſee;
His ſacred name by others priz'd,
Was taſteleſs ſtill and dead to me.

II.

Men call'd me Chriſtian, and my heart
On that deluſion fondly ſtay'd;
Moral my hopes, my Saviour ſelf,
'Till mighty grace the cheat diſplay'd.

III.

Thanks to the hand that wak'd my dream,
That ſhew'd me wretched, naked, poor;
That ſweetly led me to the Rock,
Where all ſalvation ſtands ſecure.

IV.

Glad, I forſook my righteous pride,
My moral, tarniſh'd, ſinful dreſs,
Exchanged my droſs away for Chriſt,
And found the robe of righteouſneſs.

Theſe lines, dear Sir, I think are very emphatical. I truſt you can now repeat them from your heart. If ſo, hail happy man! JESUS hath waſhed you in his blood, and given you eternal life. You now then have nothing to do, but to live to him, who hath lived and died for you, and if neceſſary would die again for you with all his heart. Surely our Saviour loves you, otherwiſe he would not have ſhewed you all theſe things. I love you for his ſake (though unknown); and if he hath been pleaſed to work by my unworthy miniſtry, let him have all the glory, and forget not to pray for the poor, weak inſtrument, who has not forgotten to pray for you, being, dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate friend and ſervant,
in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXXI.

To Mr. H—— H———, in Wales.

On board the Mary and Ann, May 29, 1742.

My very dear Brother,

THOUGH I could not write to you on shore, yet I must not omit writing to you on board. I am heartily sorry that such a narrow spirit prevails in *Wales*. I have written to Mr. *H*———. But what shall we say? The Redeemer's love alone can unite and keep together his flocks. Disputing with bigots and narrow-spirited people will not do. I intend henceforward to say less to them, and pray more and more to our LORD for them. "LORD, enlarge their hearts," is my continual prayer for such, who are so streightened in their own bowels. Blessed be GOD, this partition-wall is breaking down daily in some of our old friends hearts in *London*. I exhort all to go where they can profit most. I preach what I believe to be the truth, and then leave it to the spirit of GOD to make the application. When we have done this, I think we have gone to the utmost bounds of our commission. O my brother, I find more and more, nothing but that wisdom, which is from above, can teach us how to build up souls. I never was so much assisted in this kind of work, as since I came to *London* last. We have public societies twice a week, and a general meeting for reading letters once a month. Our LORD has been much with us. We seem to move on now in gospel dignity, and are terrible as an army with banners. If the LORD inclines you, a visit to *London* would be very acceptable. Our people can now bear searching more than formerly. I find that our LORD hath particularly blessed you that way. We have had a most blessed funeral of one of our sisters in CHRIST, and the awakening, I think, has been as great as when I first came out, and abundantly more solid. The *Easter* Holidays were high days indeed. My wife doth not forget her friends in *Wales*. But our LORD has seen fit to exercise her with exceeding close inward trials. She and all with me most cordially salute you. I expect great things in *Scotland*. If possible, at my return, I hope to see you in *Wales*. But future things belong to GOD. Adieu. Forget not to pray for

Your affectionate brother pilgrim,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXXII.

To Mr. A——, in London.

Edinburgh, June 4, 1742.

My dear Brother A——,

FROM a heart overflowing with a ſenſe of GOD's love, I write you theſe few lines. Yeſterday our Saviour brought us hither. On board, I ſpent moſt part of my time in ſecret prayer. Satan ſhot many of his fiery darts againſt me. Our great *Michael* gave me a ſhield of faith, by which I was enabled to repel them all. As ſoon as I came on ſhore, the holy ſpirit filled my ſoul. The LORD commanded people to receive me and my fellow pilgrim into their houſes. Our ſouls rejoiced in him. The people were ſoon alarmed at my arrival. As ſoon as I came on ſhore at *Leith*, many came bleſſing me, and weeping, took hold of me. About four in the afternoon we came to *Edinburgh*. Great numbers followed our coach, and almoſt catched me in their arms, as ſoon as I came out of it. How did they weep for joy! It would have melted you down to have ſeen them. When I came to my lodging, many dear friends came to ſalute us in the name of the LORD. About ſeven o'clock I went to ſee ſome perſons of diſtinction, whoſe hearts the LORD reached, when I was here laſt. Some were ready to faint with exceſs of joy: with theſe I prayed and gave thanks. The Holy Ghoſt filled us with all joy and peace in believing.—At eight I went to a nobleman's houſe, where his lady and ſeveral other dear friends received us with great gladneſs. The cuſhions and bible were immediately brought. I gave a word of exhortation. We ſung, and prayed, and ſpent the remainder of the evening moſt delightfully in talking of the things of GOD. When we came home, we joined in bleſſing GOD's holy name. Though late, I ſcarce knew how to go to reſt.—This morning I received glorious accounts of the carrying on of the Mediator's kingdom. The work of GOD is beyond expreſſion. Three of the little boys that were converted when I was laſt here, came to me and wept, and begged me to pray for and with them. A miniſter tells me, that ſcarce one is fallen back, who was awakened, either among old or young. The ſerjeant, whoſe letter, brother

ther *C*—— has, goes on well with his company. O my dear brother, help me to praiſe the Lamb that ſitteth upon the throne for ever; and deſire all the ſociety to join with you. I believe within theſe four months you will hear of very great things. Pray that I may be very little in my own eyes, and not rob my dear Maſter of any part of his glory. We do not forget you. Once a day we meet together and pray for abſent friends. He gives us leave, as it were, to aſk of him what we will, and promiſes never to leave or forſake us. For the preſent, my dear brother, adieu! As opportunity offers, and if poſſible every poſt, ſome or other of my dear friends ſhall hear, dear brother *A*——, from

Your moſt affectionate, though moſt unworthy brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXIII.

To the Right Honourable Lord R——.

My Lord, *Edinburgh, June* 4, 1742.

YESTERDAY morning our glorious *Emmanuel* brought us hither. Your Lordſhip's kind letter was put into my hands. I heartily ſympathize with your Lordſhip; but could not help rejoicing on your honoured lady's account, knowing ſhe is now entered into her bleſſed Maſter's joy. Indeed, my Lord, I think, among chriſtians, death hath not only loſt its ſting, but its name. I never was ſo joyful as I am now at the death of thoſe who die in the LORD; and never was ſo reconciled to living myſelf. My general language, when I hear of the ſaints departure, is, "Let them go." Lately at *London* we had a ſiſter in CHRIST departed. Her laſt words were, "Holy, holy, holy!" ſhe could ſay no more here; but our Saviour ſent for her to finiſh her ſong in heaven. I preached over her corpſe; our ſociety attended: but ſurely never did ſouls triumph over death more than we did that night. Many would ſay, "O death! where is thy ſting? O grave! where is thy victory?" As for my own part, I was enabled to trample death under my feet: and, bleſſed be GOD, through rich grace I can do that daily. But then your Lordſhip may aſk, "Why are you reconciled to life?" Becauſe

cauſe I can do that for JESUS on earth, which I cannot do in heaven: I mean, be made inſtrumental in bringing ſome poor, weary, heavy laden ſinners to find reſt in his blood and righteouſneſs: and, indeed, if our Saviour was to offer either to take me now, or to ſtay only to take one ſinner more, I would deſire to ſtay to take him with me. But whither am I running? O my Lord, death is a delightful topic. Excuſe me if I forget myſelf when writing about it. Bleſſed be our GOD for ſupporting your ſoul under ſo cloſe a trial! How ſweet will it be to meet your Lady glorified at the great day! Yet a little while, and that happy day ſhall come. But it is time to anſwer your Lordſhip's queſtion: "How was you on the 24th of laſt *November?*" I thank GOD, very well. My ſoul was much refreſhed with the Redeemer's preſence; and I was rejoicing in hope of the glory of GOD. I hear of wonderful things in *Scotland*. I can only fall down and worſhip. I have ſeen greater things than ever in *England*. I expect to ſee far greater in *Scotland*. Our LORD will not let his people be diſappointed of their hopes. But I muſt away. We were very happy together with ſome other dear friends laſt night. I have not ſeen your Lordſhip's daughters, though they have been ſo kind as to ſend to enquire after my health. I hope to ſee them to-day; and am, my Lord, with all poſſible reſpect, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXIV.

To the Reverend Mr. M———, at Cambuſlang.

Edinburgh, June 8, 1742.

Reverend and very dear Brother,

I Heartily rejoice at the awakening at *Cambuſlang*, and elſewhere. I believe you will both ſee and hear of far greater things than theſe. I truſt that not one corner of poor *Scotland* will be left unwatered by the dew of GOD's heavenly bleſſing. The cloud is now only riſing as big as a man's hand; yet a little while, and we ſhall hear a ſound of an abundance of goſpel rain. Our glorious *Emmanuel* has given us much of his divine preſence ſince my arrival. O that it

may accompany me to *Cambuſlang!* GOD willing, I hope to be with you the beginning of next week; but cannot exactly tell the day. In the mean while, forget not to pray for, reverend and dear brother,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXV.

To the Reverend Mr. E—— E——, at Sterling.

Edinburgh, June 10, 1742.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

I Am now at Mr. *G*——'s houſe; and finding his wife about to ſet out for *Sterling*, the love which I bear you, for my dear Maſter's ſake, conſtrains me to ſend you a line. It is ſome concern to me, that our difference as to outward things, ſhould cut off our ſweet fellowſhip and communion with each other. GOD knows my heart, I highly value and honour you. Reverend and dear Sir, I do aſſure you I love you and your brethren more than ever. I applaud your zeal for GOD; and though, in ſome reſpects, I think it not according to knowledge, and to be levelled frequently againſt me, yet indeed I feel no reſentment in my heart, and ſhould joyfully ſit down and hear you and your other brethren preach. I ſalute them all; and pray our common LORD to give us all a right judgment in all things. I hope the glorious *Emmanuel* will be preſent at the ſacrament, and make himſelf known to you in breaking of bread. I have made bold to ſend you the incloſed pamphlets, and ſhould be glad to know your opinion of them. When I ſhall come to *Sterling*, I know not. However, I earneſtly pray for you and yours. I could drop a tear. O when ſhall the time come, when the watchmen will ſee eye to eye? Haſten that time, our LORD and our GOD! But perhaps I am troubleſome. Forgive me, reverend and dear Sir, being, without diſſimulation, your

Younger brother and ſervant in the goſpel of CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXXVI.

To Mr. D—— A———, in London.

Dear Friend, *Edinburgh, July 7, 1742.*

I Arrived here laſt *Saturday* evening from the *Weſt*, where I preached all the laſt week: as, twice on *Monday* at *Paiſley*, ſix miles from *Glaſgow*; on the *Tueſday* and *Wedneſday*, three times each day, at *Irvine*, 16 miles from thence; on *Thurſday*, twice at *Mearns*, fifteen miles from that; on *Friday*, three times at *Cambernauld*; and on *Saturday*, twice at *Falkirk*, in my way to *Edinburgh*. In every place there was the greateſt commotion among the people as was ever known. Their mourning in moſt of the places, was like the mourning for a firſt-born. The auditories were very large, and the work of GOD ſeems to be ſpreading more and more. Laſt ſabbath-day I preached twice in the park, and once in the church, and twice every day ſince. A number of ſeats and ſhades, in the form of an amphitheatre, have been erected in the park, where the auditory ſit in a beautiful order. I have received very agreeable news from my family abroad.—I purpoſe going to *Cambuſlang* to-morrow, in order to aſſiſt at the communion; and ſhall preach at various places weſtward before I return here. I intend to embark for *America* as ſoon as poſſible after I leave *Scotland*. Thus you ſee, my dear brother, how I have been employed. O give thanks to our bleſſed Saviour, for his great unparalleled goodneſs to a moſt unworthy worm. Indeed I have ſeen and felt ſuch things, as I never ſaw and felt before. I never was enabled to preach ſo powerfully as whilſt I have been in the *Weſt*. I hear that brother *C*—— is in the country, and that you exhort in the ſociety. May the LORD open your mouth, and cauſe your lips to ſhew forth his praiſe! Let us talk of his loving-kindneſs all the day long. GOD gives me faith for my poor orphans. Help me with your prayers. GOD will ſupply all my wants. Glory be to his name, I am kept from doubting. My brother, I love you dearly. You have been a cloſe and faithful brother. May the LORD bleſs you and yours. Adieu! Pray fail not of writing as particular as may be, to,

Moſt affectionately yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXVII.

To Mr. H——, at the Orphan-house.

Edinburgh, July 7, 1742.

My very dear friend, faithful steward, and brother in CHRIST,

LAST *Monday* I received an agreeable packet of letters from you. I think they are dated in *October* and *December* last. They rejoiced our hearts. As soon as I read yours, my wife said, let us give thanks and pray. Accordingly we kneeled down, and had very near access to the Father of Mercies on your behalf. At night, after our coming home, we did the same. Our common LORD enabled us to wrestle in faith. We all felt our hearts drawn mightily towards you. I could wish for wings to fly unto you. I long to thank you in person, for your faithfulness to your poor unworthy, but most affectionate friend. My dear brother, GOD is still doing greater things for me than ever. The awakening here in *Scotland* is unspeakable. The congregations in the *West*, are just like those which you and I saw at *Foggs-Manor*, in *Pensylvania*. GOD seems to awaken scores together. I never was enabled to preach so before. O that I may lie low at the feet of my dear Redeemer! to whose image I am studying to be more conformed every day. Your letter to dear brother *A*—— pleased us very much. I have desired him to print it. I paid a three hundred pound bill drawn upon me by Mr. *N*——, as well as Mr. *B*——'s: whether you include that in the eleven thousand pounds, I know not. However, blessed be GOD, if it were eleven thousand more I hope I should be kept from doubting. At present, I am looking up to our great Housholder for fresh supplies; which I believe he will give me, and which I will send to you as soon as possible. I hope to see you soon, and to thank you in particular for your faithfulness to me. My friend and brother, you shall in no wise lose your reward. I believe GOD will take *Georgia* into his own hands. Its affairs have lately been before the House of Commons. Mr. *Ste*—— was reprimanded for his abuse of the trustees; the use of rum was granted, but the use of slaves denied. Let us stand still, be instant in prayer, and we shall certainly

certainly see the salvation of GOD. I am yet made to hope against hope, in behalf of poor *Georgia*. The LORD strengthen your weak body, and continually comfort your soul. That you may be filled with all the fulness of GOD, is the hearty prayer of, dear Mr. *H*———,

Yours eternally in the strictest bonds of gospel love,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXVIII.

To Mrs. Whitefield.

My dear Love, *Edinburgh, July* 7, 1742.

SINCE I wrote the last, I have seen such things as I never beheld before. Yesterday morning I preached at *Glasgow* to a very large congregation. At noon I came to *Cambuslang*, the place which GOD hath so much honoured. I preached at two, to a vast body of people, and at six in the evening, and again at nine at night. Such a commotion surely never was heard of, especially at eleven at night. It far out-did all that I ever saw in *America*. For about an hour and a half there was such weeping, so many falling into deep distress, and expressing it various ways, as is inexpressible. The people seem to be slain by scores. They are carried off, and come into the house like soldiers wounded in, and carried off a field of battle. Their cries and agonies are exceedingly affecting. Mr. *M*——— preached after I had ended, till past one in the morning, and then could scarce persuade them to depart. All night in the fields, might be heard the voice of prayer and praise. Some young ladies were found by a gentlewoman praising GOD at break of day. She went and joined with them. The LORD is indeed much with me. I have preached twice to-day already, and am to preach twice, perhaps three times more. The commotions increase. To-morrow, and on sabbath-day, I shall preach at *Calder*; on *Monday*, here again; and on *Tuesday* at *Kilsyth*, and then, GOD willing, at *Glasgow*. I am persuaded the work will spread more and more. My kindest respects to all. Accept of the same from, my dear love,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXIX.

To the Reverend Mr. W——, of Dundee.

Edinburgh, July 7, 1742.

Reverend and dear Sir,

YOUR letter gave me ſome little concern. I thought it breathed much of a ſectarian ſpirit; to which I hoped dear Mr. *W*—— was quite averſe. Methinks you ſeem, dear Sir, not ſatisfied, unleſs I declare myſelf a Preſbyterian, and openly renounce the church of *England*. GOD knows that I have been faithful in bearing a teſtimony againſt what I think is corrupt in that church. I have ſhewn my freedom in communicating with the church of *Scotland*, and in baptizing children their own way. I can go no further. As for what you mention about the Quakers, I know not what particular exceptionable paſſages there were in my ſermons, in which I mentioned them. That ſome good ſouls are among the Quakers, I doubt not.—For ſuch I have charity, becauſe our LORD hath given to them his ſpirit.—Though I am a ſtrenuous defender of the righteouſneſs of CHRIST, and utterly deteſt *Arminian* principles, yet I know that GOD gave me the Holy Ghoſt, before I was clear in either as to head-knowledge: and therefore, dear Sir, I am the more moderate to people who are not clear, ſuppoſing I ſee the divine image ſtamped upon their hearts. Mr. *W*——, Mr. *L*——, &c. I take to be holy men of GOD, though they think far widely from me, and from each other in ſome particular branches of doctrine. Dear Sir, be not offended at my plain ſpeaking. I find but few of a truly catholic ſpirit. Moſt are catholic till they bring perſons over to their own party, and there they would fetter them. I have not ſo learned CHRIST. I deſire to act as GOD acts. I ſhall approve, and join with all who are good in every ſect, and caſt a mantle of love over all that are bad, ſo far as is conſiſtent with a good conſcience. This I can do without temporizing; nay I ſhould defile my conſcience if I did otherwiſe. As for my anſwer to Mr. *M*——, dear Sir, it is very ſatisfying to my own ſoul. Morning and evening retirement is certainly exceeding good; but if through weakneſs of body, or frequency of preaching, I cannot go to

GOD

GOD in my usual set times, I think my spirit is not in bondage. It is not for me to tell how often I use secret prayer; if I did not use it, nay, if in one sense I did not pray without ceasing, it would be difficult for me to keep up that frame of soul, which by the divine blessing I daily enjoy. If the work of GOD prospers, and your hands become more full, you will then, dear Sir, know better what I mean. But enough of this. GOD knows my heart, I would do every thing I possibly could, to satisfy all men, and give a reason of the hope that is in me with meekness and fear; but I cannot satisfy all that are waiting for an occasion to find fault: our LORD could not; I therefore despair of doing it. However, dear Sir, I take what you have said in very good part: only I think you are too solicitous to clear up my character to captious and prejudiced men. Let my master speak for me. Blessed be GOD, he will, so long as I simply throw myself into his almighty arms. I am glad the work goes on with you. Glory be to GOD, we have seen glorious things in the West. My tender love to all that are pleased to remember me. When I shall come your way, I know not. On *Friday*, GOD willing, I go to *Cambuslang*, where I expect to see great days of the son of man. That GOD may bless you abundantly more and more, and cause your latter end greatly to increase, is the hearty prayer of, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours &c.

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXX.

To the Reverend Mr. A——, in Dublin.

Glasgow, July 12, 1742.

Reverend and dear Sir,

ON *Saturday* I received your very kind letter, and being just now returned from *Cambuslang*, I snatch a few moments to acknowledge it. I have long since waited for a call to *Ireland*. In such an important step, I care not to proceed without great caution. When I find the cloud of divine providence moving your way, I trust the language of my heart will be, LORD, I come to do or suffer thy will! In the mean while, I will watch unto prayer. I doubt not but you, reve-

rend and dear Sir, will help me herein. I thank you moſt heartily, for being jealous over me. I believe it is with a godly jealouſy. I wiſh I was more jealous over myſelf. But bleſſed be GOD, this I can ſay in the midſt of the honours wherewith the glorious *Emmanuel* hath honoured me, "Not unto me, O LORD, not unto me, but unto thy name be all the glory." Dear Sir, I think I am the worſt of the ſons of men. Yet I dare not deny what the bleſſed JESUS hath done for my ſinful ſoul. He is pleaſed (O infinitely condeſcending GOD!) to honour me ſtill more and more. *Saturday* laſt I came to *Cambuſlang*, and I think I never ſaw ſuch things before. The work ſeems to be ſpreading. O that it may reach and overſpread poor *Ireland* alſo! All things are poſſible with GOD. Now the LORD is watering ſo many other places, I pray he may not leave that intirely deſtitute and dry.—O for faith to expect great, and very great things from GOD! He does not love to diſappoint people of their hope. Dear Sir, my heart is now enlarged with a ſenſe of the freeneſs and fulneſs of the Redeemer's loving-kindneſs. You, dear Sir, are an old weather beaten ſoldier. You are ripened for glory, and are ready to ſing your *Nunc dimittis* *.—I am juſt about to begin to be a ſoldier. But, bleſſed be GOD, I ſhall follow ſoon. The hopes of bringing more ſouls to JESUS CHRIST, is the only conſideration that can reconcile me to life. For this cauſe I can willingly ſtay long from my wiſh'd-for home, my wiſhed-for JESUS. But whither am I going? I forget myſelf when writing of JESUS. His love fills my ſoul, O free grace! Surely I ſhall ſing the loudeſt in heaven; but I muſt have done; nature calls for reſt. Depending on the continuance of your prayers, and with my hearty ſalutation to all that love the bleſſed JESUS, I ſubſcribe myſelf, reverend and dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, though younger and
moſt unworthy brother and ſervant in
the goſpel of GOD's dear Son,
G. W.

* Now letteſt thou thy ſervant, &c.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXXXI.

To Mr. J—— C———, in London.

New-Kilpatrick, July 15, 1742.

My dear Brother,

OF all my fellow-labourers letters, I think yours come the ſweeteſt to my ſoul. You do not forget the rock from whence you was hewn, and therefore the LORD will honour you more and more. Though I have ſo ſmall a degree of humility myſelf, I can ſee and admire it in others. It is the queen of graces. O beg of the exalted JESUS to make me humble. Indeed I have need of humility, for I am honoured more and more. What I have ſent you already, does not near come up to what I have ſeen ſince. Laſt *Thurſday* night, and *Friday* morning, there was ſuch a ſhock in *Edinburgh* as I never felt before. O what a melting and weeping was there! I have heard bleſſed effects of it ſince. All glory be to GOD through CHRIST. On *Friday* night I came to *Cambuſlang*, to aſſiſt at the bleſſed ſacrament. On *Saturday* I preached to above twenty thouſand people. In my prayer the power of GOD came down and was greatly felt. In my two ſermons, there was yet more power. On ſabbath day, ſcarce ever was ſuch a ſight ſeen in *Scotland*. There were undoubtedly upwards of twenty thouſand people. Two tents were ſet up, and the holy ſacrament was adminiſtered in the fields. When I began to ſerve a table, the power of GOD was felt by numbers; but the people crouded ſo upon me, that I was obliged to deſiſt and go to preach at one of the tents, whilſt the miniſters ſerved the reſt of the tables. GOD was with them, and with his people. There was preaching all day by one or another, and in the evening, when the ſacrament was over, at the requeſt of the miniſters I preached to the whole congregation. I preached about an hour and a half. Surely it was a time much to be remembered. On *Monday* morning, I preached again to near as many; but ſuch an univerſal ſtir I never ſaw before. The motion fled as ſwift as lightning from one end of the auditory to another. You might have ſeen thouſands bathed in tears. Some at the ſame time wringing their hands, others almoſt ſwooning, and others crying

crying out, and mourning over a pierced Saviour. But I muſt not attempt to deſcribe it. In the afternoon, the concern again was very great. Much prayer had been previouſly put up to the LORD. All night in different companies, you might have heard perſons praying to, and praiſing GOD. The children of GOD came from all quarters. It was like the paſſover in *Joſiah*'s time. We are to have another in about two or three months, if the LORD will. One Mr. *W*——, a miniſter, who has great popular gifts, was as well as others much owned and helped at this time. On *Tueſday* morning I preached at *Glaſgow*, (it was a moſt glorious time) and in the afternoon twice at *Inchannon*. The LORD gave a blow to many. Yeſterday morning I preached there again, and here twice. Every time there was a great ſtir, eſpecially at this place. A great company of awakened ſouls is within the compaſs of twenty miles, and the work ſeems to be ſpreading apace. I am exceedingly ſtrengthened, O unmerited mercy! both in ſoul and body, and cannot now do well without preaching three times a day. The LORD gives me great confidence about the Orphan-houſe, and aſſures me that he will provide for me and mine. O help me to thank him. Call upon all to bleſs his holy name. I know you will not be ſlack to praiſe him. I rejoice, my dear brother, to find that you enjoy ſo much of GOD. May he fill you with all his fulneſs. The trials you meet with, will only make you a more able miniſter of the New Teſtament. I am of your mind with reſpect to ——. He will not proſper. The LORD hates ſectarian zeal. Dear brother, adieu. Expect to hear every opportunity from

Yours moſt affectionately and eternally
in the bleſſed JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXXII.

To the Reverend Mr. R——, in London.

Inchannon, July 21, 1742.

Reverend and dear Sir,

I Heartily rejoice that the LORD is bleſſing and owning you. Go on, dear Sir, go on, and you will certainly find the glorious

glorious *Emmanuel* will be with you more and more. It is obſervable, that there is but one thing in ſcripture, that we are commanded to do out of ſeaſon, *preaching*. Be inſtant therefore, dear Sir, in ſeaſon and out of ſeaſon. The LORD will ſtand by you and ſtrengthen you, and deliver you from wicked and unreaſonable men. You will find the bleſſedneſs of the croſs, and the ſpirit of CHRIST and of glory to reſt upon your ſoul. The Meſſrs. *E*—— and their adherents, would you think it, have appointed a publick faſt to humble themſelves, among other things, for my being received in *Scotland*, and for the deluſion, as they term it, at *Cambuſlang*, and other places; and all this, becauſe I would not conſent to preach only for them, till I had light into, and could take the ſolemn league and covenant. — But to what lengths may prejudice carry even good men?—From giving way to the firſt riſings of bigotry and a party ſpirit, good LORD deliver us!

Your moſt affectionate brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXXIII.

To Mr. M—— A——, at Morpeth.

Dear Sir, *Edinburgh, July* 26, 1742.

I Juſt now received and read your letter. It much affected me. It beſpeaks the language of an uneaſy reſtleſs heart. In reading it, I thought of the great *Auſtin*, who uſed, when he prayed againſt luſt, ſecretly to wiſh that his prayer might not be anſwered, and yet he made a moſt eminent ſaint, and ſhone in the church as a ſtar of the firſt magnitude. I likewiſe thought how our Saviour would receive you, if here on earth; even as he received and anſwered the poor woman taken in adultery.—I am ſure he would ſay, "Neither do I condemn thee." Another text offers itſelf, "I will heal their backſlidings, and love them freely." GOD does not ſay, I will heal thy backſliding for any certain term of years, but I will heal thy backſlidings in general. Dear Sir, if you have been a backſlider theſe fifty years, nay, was it poſſible for you to have been a backſlider a thouſand years, yet if with hearty repentance and true faith you turn unto him, he will abundantly pardon you. O dear Sir, if any one had need to deſpair of

mercy, I had; but JESUS has washed me in his blood, and I know that my Redeemer liveth. Your temptations, and atheism, and hard thoughts of GOD, do not surprize me. Dear Sir, what else can be expected from a heart desperately wicked, and deceitful above all things? Dear Sir, let all this drive you to the fountain which is open for sin and all uncleanness. I once, in your circumstances, thought CHRIST was hard-hearted; but now I find, nay have long since found, that his heart is full of love. Take courage, dear Sir; draw near to the Lamb of GOD that taketh away the sin of the world. Return, thou wandering prodigal, thy heavenly father is running to meet thee.—Come back, thou fluttering dove, JESUS is ready to take thee into the ark. May GOD bless this to you! If he does, I will bless his name. I am a vile sinner, and have need to lie low before him, whom I have pierced by my transgression and unprofitableness, times without number. In his blood and righteousness I find perpetual refuge. Many in these parts are flying to him. May you, Sir, add to the happy number. You are but a sinner, and JESUS died for sinners. Come and welcome to JESUS CHRIST. I expect to remain in *Scotland* a few months, and hope to be your way, if the LORD direct. If your way should be directed hither, I should be glad to see you; if not, you are welcome to write to me. As my multiplicity of affairs will admit, you shall be answered by, dear Sir,

Your truly affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXXIV.

To the Reverend Mr. Mc L——.

Edinburgh, July 28, 1742.

Reverend and dear Sir,

WITH this, I suppose, you will receive several young ones, who I think have acted wrong in leaving their respective employs under parents and masters to go after me. Be pleased to examine them, and send them home. The LORD was with me at *Falkirk*, and is pleased to work by me here. O free grace! I am persuaded I shall have more power, since dear Mr. *G*—— hath printed such a bitter pamphlet. Now I be-

I begin to be a disciple of JESUS CHRIST, I rejoice and am exceeding glad. The archers shot sore at me that I might fall, but the LORD is, and the LORD will be my helper. At present I can add no more; but beg the continuance of your prayers for me and mine. We all join in hearty salutation to you and your whole household. I am, reverend and dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

and brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXXV.

To Mr. D—— A——, in London.

Edinburgh, July 30, 1742.

Dear Brother A——,

WHAT is the meaning I hear no oftner from you? It always gives me great pleasure to hear of your welfare. I write to you as often as possible. At present I am somewhat indisposed in body; but, glory be to GOD, the joy of the LORD is in my soul. I feel a blessing I cannot express.

July 31.

So far I wrote yesterday, but was obliged through illness to leave off.—Notwithstanding, in the pulpit the LORD out of weakness makes me to wax strong, and causes me to triumph more and more. One of the associate presbytery has published the most virulent pamphlet I ever saw, ascribing all that has been done here, and even in *New-England*, &c. to the influence of the devil. O how prejudice will blind the eyes even of good men. Last night some of my friends thought I was going off; but how did JESUS fill my heart! To-day I am, as they call it, much better; next post, if able, I will send you some more news. My health will not permit me to enlarge now. In less than a month, we are to have another sacrament at *Cambuslang*, a thing not practised before in *Scotland*. I entreat all to pray in an especial manner for a blessing at that time. Our blessed master is exceeding good to us. O

help me to praiſe him for the ſignal unmerited mercies conferred on, dear brother *A*——,

Your moſt affectionate brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXXVI.

To Mr. H—— B——, in South-Carolina.

Dear Mr. B—— *Auguſt* 6, 1742.

I Have juſt been walking with a nobleman in his fine houſe, and likewiſe talking with him about the houſe not made with hands, of which you and I are heirs. Bleſſed be GOD, who has given us the earneſt of an inheritance amongſt all them that are ſanctified. This you ſhall ſurely in a very little time be a poſſeſſor of, notwithſtanding of late ſatan has bruiſed your heel. That cunning, cruel archer has ſhot ſorely at you, that you might fall, but the LORD has been, and the LORD will be your helper. Even this ſhall work together for good to your own and many other ſouls. Our Saviour would never have given ſatan leave to have ſifted you, had he not prayed for you, and intended to bring great good out of it. If it makes you more like a little child, and your friends and acquaintance more watchful and ſelf-diffident, it will be very well. O dear Sir, I ſee every day plainer and plainer that I am nothing, have nothing, and can do nothing, and yet I can do all things through JESUS CHRIST ſtrengthening me. What GOD has lately done for me and his church, is unſpeakable. Ere long I hope to tell you face to face. In the mean time, be pleaſed to remember me in your prayers and praiſes. Accept my hearty thanks for all favours conferr'd on my orphan family. Be pleaſed to remember me in the kindeſt and moſt cordial manner, to all your dear relations, and believe me to be, dear Mr. *B*——,

Your moſt obliged affectionate friend, brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXXXVII.

To Mr. R—— S——.

Strath-martin, Auguſt 10, 1742.

Dear brother Robert,

I Can never let a letter of yours lie long unanſwered. The love I bear to you and yours is unfeigned, and I continually remember you before the LORD. His word runs and is much glorified in theſe parts. I truſt it alſo makes advances in your ſoul. How is it with you, my dear brother *R——?* Do you grow in grace? Is the world more under your feet than uſual? Do you find a real, ſolid, abiding reſt in JESUS CHRIST? Or is it only tranſitory and ſuperficial? It is a very uncommon thing to be rooted and grounded in the love of JESUS. I find perſons may have the idea, but are far from having the real ſubſtance. To ſay, "I am a poor ſinner," and to be a poor ſinner indeed, are two different things. Methinks I hear my dear man ſay, and ſo they are. Well then, let us go to JESUS, and he will make us poor and yet free. Bleſſed be his name, I feel the power of his precious, life-giving, all-atoning blood more and more every day. I was happy when at *London.* I am ten times happier now. The LORD hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad. How is my dear *Peter?* Is his heart yet eſtabliſhed and ſettled upon the rock? Or is the dove only fluttering about the door of the ark? If ſo, may the dear Redeemer reach out his almighty and extended arm, and take him in! Dear *B——* I hope grows, becauſe he ſeems to ſee more of his heart. We ſhall certainly bear fruit upwards, in proportion as we take root downwards. May the eternal ſpirit breathe upon this letter, and bleſs it to your ſoul! O my brother, keep cloſe to JESUS. Do not be content, unleſs you feel a ſenſible growth in your ſoul. Accept my hearty love from,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXXXVIII.

To P———, at London.

Strath-martin, Auguſt 10, 1742.

Dear P———,

THE great trouble which I gave you when at *London*, and the readineſs you ſhewed in waiting upon a poor unworthy miniſter of CHRIST, hath made me often to pray for you, and alſo to hope, that in time you would be brought to love the LORD JESUS himſelf. I truſt that time is now come, and that the glorious *Emmanuel* hath at length captivated and taken full poſſeſſion of your heart. Will you give me leave to aſk a few friendly queſtions? Has religion ſunk out of your head into your heart? You was civilized when I was at *London*: Are you yet really converted? Your affections were now and then raiſed towards,—are they now centered in and fixed on the LORD JESUS? If you can anſwer theſe queſtions in the affirmative, I pronounce you a wiſe virgin, even wiſe to eternal ſalvation; bleſſed art thou among women. If not, I do not deſpair of you. JESUS can change the heart. JESUS can make of a proud phariſee, a poor ſinner. Let you and I then, dear *P*——, apply to the Redeemer's blood. He can waſh us as white as ſnow. I feel his power every day more and more, and ſo do thoſe with me. May we go on from ſtrength to ſtrength, till grace be ſwallowed up in glory. We ſee great days of the ſon of man in *Scotland*. May the kingdom of GOD come with full power over all the earth! The Lord be with you. Accept this as a token of unfeigned love, from

Your affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXXXIX.

To Mr. B——, at the Orphan-houſe.

Cambuſlang, Auguſt 17, 1742.

AND has my dear brother *B*—— got the ſtart of me? What, put into priſon before me? I wiſh you joy, my dear brother, with all my heart. Had I been at *Savannah*, ſurely I would gladly have come (and if there had been need)

need) gladly have washed your feet. I doubt not but your imprisonment was for CHRIST's sake. I am persuaded, the letter from your friend that doubted, was the sorest stab of all; but all is intended to draw us from the creature, even from the new creature, and bring us nearer to the Creator, GOD blessed for evermore. *Paul*'s friends deserted, and no doubt judged him. "All they in *Asia* forsook me," says he; and again, "At my first trial no man stood by me;" and what follows? but "the LORD stood by me:" and will he not, dear brother, also stand by you? I cannot help believing but that *Georgia* will yet be a glorious colony. The counsel of GOD shall stand. He surely put it into my heart to build the Orphan-house. He certainly brought you to *Georgia* to superintend it. He will bless you and yours. I join in blessing GOD with you, and in admiring how he has spread a table for my dear family in that wilderness. But what shall we say? The LORD loves to encourage faith; and since his honour is so much concerned, I am sure he will vindicate it, and never suffer his enemies to say thus of us, "There, there, so would we have it." I am kept from the least doubting; and GOD only knows how many prayers of faith I have put up for you. I have often wished as it were for the wings of a dove, that I might fly unto you, and take you one by one into my unworthy arms, and weep over you with tears of love. Blessed be GOD, the time draws near apace. I am just now about to publish a further account of the Orphan-house, and hope shortly to collect some more money towards its support. I am blessed with far greater success than ever, and satan roars louder. You will see by what I here send, how the archers of different classes shoot at me; but the LORD (for ever adored be his never-failing love) causes my bow to abide in strength, and enables me to triumph in every place. The comforts and success the LORD gives to me, is unspeakable. Last LORD's day, I believe there were here thirty thousand people, and above two thousand five hundred communicants. The work spreads, and I believe will yet spread. My bodily strength is daily renewed, and I mount on the wings of faith and love like an eagle. I can only cry Grace! grace! My dear brother, I feel every day more and more, that I am a poor, very poor sinner. I often wonder why JESUS suffers me to

live, much more to speak for him. But he will have mercy on whom he will have mercy. O free grace! Oh unparalleled love of an infinitely condescending GOD! Whilst I am musing, the fire kindles. Surely we shall have a happy meeting in *Georgia*. My Master will, I trust, come along with me. Otherwise, may I not go up hence. In the mean while, I pray him to quicken and revive your dear souls, and fill you as with new wine. Thus he deals with me and mine daily. I am retired for a day, on purpose to write letters. The LORD bless them to your dear souls, whom I love in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I wish you had told me who stood by at *Savannah* and brought you refreshment. Greet them, and give them particular thanks in my name. My heart is full; I know not how to stop. But I must write to the trustees, and to others. I heard nothing of the affair, till I received your letter last week. A word or two of yours to Mr. *O*——, I think a little too harsh; but *Paul* spoke once a little too harsh to the high-priest. Our JESUS will overlook this; and reward you for your imprisonment by and by. Adieu! my dear man, adieu! Forget not,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXL.

To the Honourable Trustees for Georgia.

Cambuslang, Aug. 17, 1742.

Honoured Gentlemen,

SOME letters, which I received last week from *Georgia*, occasion my troubling you with this, which I doubt not will meet with a candid reception at your hands. I find that Mr. *H*—— and Mr. *B*—— have been taken up by a warrant, and were imprisoned above a week, for a thing which, I believe, none of you, honoured gentlemen, will judge cognizable by the civil magistrate. It seems that Mr. *B*——, in a private conversation with Mr. *O*——, (who, I suppose, is the present minister of *Savannah*) told him, "He was no "christian; that he wondered at the impudence of young men in subscribing articles they did not believe; and that he should think it his duty to warn his friends not to hear him." I ac-

know-

knowledge that such language was too harsh; but Mr. *H*——, who did not say near so much, was linked in the same prosecution, and imprisoned with him. Mr. *J*———, who was then at *Frederica*, being informed of it, declared such a procedure to be illegal; and his Excellency General *Oglethorp*, desired my friends to lay the matter before the board of the Honourable Trustees. I being now upon the spot, they have sent to me a very particular account of what has passed; which, if you please, honoured gentlemen, I will transmit unto you, or, when I come to *London*, will wait upon you in person. I find also, that my friends were denied a copy of the proceedings of the court: in which, I am persuaded the honourable gentlemen to whom I am writing, will think they have been wronged. My friends require no satisfaction, but only desire such a proceeding may be animadverted upon; knowing that otherwise it will be a great discouragement to people's settling in *Georgia*. I am sorry also to inform you, honoured gentlemen, that five very small children, (*Swiss* or *Dutch*) whose parents lately died in their passage from *England*, have had their goods sold at *Vendue*, and are bound out till the age of twenty-one years. This I think directly contrary to the grant given me by you, honoured gentlemen; for thereby I was impowered to take as many orphans into the house as my fund would admit of. The magistrates, I understand, have also been at the Orphan-house, and claim a power to take away the children when they please, whether the children chuse it, or complain of ill-treatment, or not. This grieves some of the children, and makes others of them insolent, who are hereby taught, that they have a power to go away when they will. This, honoured gentlemen, must be very discouraging to those who are entrusted with their education; and who, I am persuaded, aim at nothing but the glory of GOD, the welfare of the colony, and the salvation of the children's souls. I suppose that the magistrates (I mean Mr. *P*——— and Mr. *T*———) have taken such a liberty from the instructions which were sent, honoured gentlemen, from you some time ago. But Mr. *J*——— has told them, they have misunderstood you; and his Excellency General *Oglethorp* I find has wrote to you, honoured gentlemen, about it. By the

accounts I have, our plantation thrives well; and Mr. *H*—— hopes we ſhall do with white ſervants alone. I do aſſure you, honoured gentlemen, I will do all I can, with the moſt diſintereſted views, to promote the good of *Georgia:* only I beg the management of the Orphan-houſe, and orphans, may be ſecured to me and my ſucceſſors for ever; and that the magiſtrates be not ſuffered to diſturb us, when there is no ground of complaint. They acknowledged, when at the Orphan-houſe laſt, that the children were taken good care of, both as to their bodies and ſouls; and will it not then, honoured gentlemen, tend much to the welfare of the colony, that the Orphan-houſe ſhould meet with all poſſible encouragement. His Excellency General *Oglethorp* has informed my friend Mr. *H*——, that, if I deſired it, he thought you would grant me a greater tract of land, which I ſhould be obliged to give away in a certain term of years, and that we might have our own magiſtrates, as have the people of *Ebenezer*. Whether I ſhall deſire ſuch a favour, I know not; but, if I ſhould, I deſire to know, what you, honoured gentlemen, would ſay to it. Many have applied to me to ſettle in *Georgia*; hitherto I could give them no encouragement. I wiſh I may be enabled to give them a great deal for the future. Indeed, honoured gentlemen, I do not deſire to find fault. I doubt not but you have been prejudiced both againſt me and my friends. The event will ſhew what friends we are to *Georgia*. The Orphan-houſe will certainly be of great utility to the colony; and the children educated therein, I truſt, will be the glory of the ſociety to which they belong. They are bred up to induſtry, as well as to other things; and are taught to fear GOD, and honour the king. I am glad to hear that you have lately ſent over a gentleman who (I ſuppoſe) will do juſtice. I think I deſire nothing elſe; and heartily pray GOD to bleſs him, and you, honoured gentlemen, and all that are concerned in the management of *Georgia* affairs. I hope to be in town in about two months; in the mean while, I would beg the favour of a line by your ſecretary; and alſo entreat you, honoured gentlemen, to write to the magiſtrates of *Savannah*, to let the Orphan-houſe managers alone. If I or my friends ſhould happen to ſay or do any thing amiſs, I aſſure you, honoured

gentle-

gentlemen, you ſhall have all poſſible ſatisfaction given you by them, and alſo by, honoured gentlemen,

Your very humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXLI.

To Mr. H———, in Georgia.

Cambuſlang, Aug. 17, 1742.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

WITH a great deal of pleaſure I received your letters dated *May* 14th, 26th, 29th, and *June* 1ſt. Bleſſed be GOD! for all his goodneſs, in providing for my dear family in that wilderneſs, by ſuch various unexpected ways. It cauſed my heart to leap for joy. I find you have been wrongfully impriſoned. I ſhould have been glad (if time had permitted) that you had wrote me word, how it has been with your ſoul under ſuch a circumſtance. I hope the ſpirit of CHRIST and of glory reſted upon you. Glad ſhould I have been to have ſung and prayed with you; but my hour is not yet come. I have juſt now wrote to the truſtees, and intend waiting upon them as ſoon as I come to *London*. I am perſuaded the LORD will influence their hearts to do us juſtice. I am glad you wrote ſo properly to the General, and that GOD hath given you favour in his ſight. "When a man's ways pleaſe the LORD, he makes his very enemies to be at peace with him." I intend ſending him and Mr. *Jones* a letter of thanks. I owe Mr. *S*—— only about ninety pounds, and about a hundred and fifty more in all, upon the Orphan-houſe account in *England*. I am juſt publiſhing a further account, which I am perſuaded the LORD will bleſs. I would not have you to undertake any buſineſs you do not like. I think the LORD has fitted you for your preſent ſtation. Profeſſor *Franck* held it dangerous to change perſons frequently, who were entruſted with the care of the orphans. I am of your opinion as to hiring ſervants.—It is impoſſible to tell you, my dear man, what I have ſeen, heard, and felt ſince I came laſt to *Scotland*. The glorious *Emmanuel* rides daily on in the chariot of his goſpel, from conquering and to conquer. The

congregations are just like that at *Fogg-Manor*.—I am opposed on all sides. Dear Mr. *E*———'s people have lately kept a fast upon my account. The kirk presbyters also, now they see the Seceders splitting, notwithstanding I have been instrumental in GOD's hands, in some degree, in stopping the secession, begin to call some of their ministers to account for employing me: but who can stand before envy? In the midst of all, my dear Master keeps me leaning upon himself, and causes me to walk in the comforts of the Holy Ghost from morning to night. I wish time would have allowed you to have wrote a little about his love, and to have abounded more in thanks for the opportune supplies which he sent you. But I am sure that my dear Mr. *H*—— is not wanting in either of these. I think that I see you grow in grace. I assure you, you are dearer to me than ever. My wife readily excuses your not writing, knowing what it is to be in a hurry of business. O pray that we may have a prosperous voyage to you, by the will of GOD. By this time I suppose you are a father. May GOD teach you and your wife how to order the child! I have much to say to you both, when I see you. My dear old friend, and first fellow-traveller, GOD has yet great blessings in store for us. He will give grace and glory, and no good thing will he with-hold from them that lead a godly life. Methinks I am conversing with you now. May GOD give us a happy meeting! He will, he will! For the present I must bid my dear man good night. I stole this day from public preaching, to dispatch my private affairs. All join in hearty love to, and prayers for you. Accept of the same in the most tender manner, from, my dear Mr. *H*——,

Your most affectionate friend, brother,
and servant till death,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXLII.

To his Excellency General Oglethorp.

Cambuſlang, Aug. 18, 1742.

Honoured Sir,

I Moſt heartily thank you for being ſo kind to my family in *Georgia*, and for eſpouſing my friends cauſe when I think they were apparently wronged. In a letter, I yeſterday laid the caſe before the honourable truſtees, not doubting but they will preſerve us from oppreſſion, and from perſecution in all its ſhapes. I think we have only the glory of GOD, and the good of the colony at heart. Prejudices may be raiſed againſt us by evil reports and miſrepreſentations; but your Excellency is more noble than to hearken to inſinuations, which are not ſupported by evident matters of fact. I am ſure GOD will bleſs you for defending the cauſe of the fatherleſs, and eſpouſing the cauſe of injured innocence. My friends, I truſt, will at all times readily acknowledge any thing they may either ſay or do wrong; and, if I know any thing of my own heart, I would not offend any one cauſeleſsly and wilfully, for the world. In a few months I hope to ſee *Georgia*. In the mean while, I beg your Excellency to accept theſe few lines of thanks from, honoured Sir,

Your Excellency's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXLIII.

To Thomas J——, Eſq; in Georgia.

Cambuſlang, Aug. 18, 1742.

Dear Mr. J——,

WITH this I ſend you my repeated thanks for your great kindneſs to my dear family. The Father of Mercies and the God of all Conſolations will plentifully reward you for ſuch well-doing. In a few months I hope to thank you in perſon. GOD hath done, and is ſtill doing greater things for me than I am able to expreſs. Indeed many ſouls have been born again, both in *England* and *Scotland*, ſince I left you at *Georgia*. I deſire to caſt my crown at the

feet of JESUS, and to cry Grace! grace! Dear Sir, what a charming word is that? I am ſure I can freely own, that all my ſalvation is of grace, unmerited, diſtinguiſhing, electing grace! If I could be ſaved by my own righteouſneſs, I had rather be ſaved by the righteouſneſs of CHRIST; becauſe that way of ſalvation brings moſt glory to our glorious GOD. I doubt not but Mr. *J*—— is like-minded. May he be ſo more and more, and daily feel the full power of the Redeemer's blood! Be pleaſed to remember me to all that are pleaſed to enquire after unworthy me, who am, dear Sir,

Your moſt obliged friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXLIV.

To Mrs. B——, at the Orphan-houſe.

Cambuſlang, Aug. 18, 1742.

Dear Siſter B——,

HAS the LORD called for your dear lambs? If ſo, I truſt you have been enabled to ſay, "The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away: bleſſed be the name of the LORD." I am glad to find you was ſo well reconciled to your dear huſband's impriſonment. It is ſweet when wives are ſtrengthened to encourage their huſbands in a ſuffering hour. Then are they helps meet for them indeed. You do well, my dear ſiſter, to lament the vileneſs of your heart. I find more and more that my heart is deſperately wicked. But, bleſſed be GOD, I have a fountain to go and waſh in every moment, even the bleſſed fountain of the Mediator's blood. There I can have free acceſs; there I can waſh, and daily be made clean. Indeed, my dear ſiſter, without diſſimulation, I am a poor, very poor ſinner; but I am rich in JESUS, and rejoice in his great ſalvation from day to day. I long to ſee you and my dear family, to acquaint you what GOD hath done for my ſoul: and yet he is ſtill doing more and more. He does, he will delight to honour me. I thank you for the great reſpect you pay me for his great name's ſake. I will endeavour not to be behind with you, and the reſt of my dear friends, in humility and love. I am, my dear ſiſter, moſt ſincerely,

Your affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXLV.

To Mr. B——.

Cambuſlang, Aug. 18, 1742.

Dear Mr. B——,

I Think there is a myſtery in the LORD's dealing with you and your brother. Surely he would never ſuffer you to be thus tempted, did he not intend to honour you by and by. What our Saviour does to us now we know not; it is enough that he hath aſſured us we ſhall know hereafter. I rejoice to hear that you have ſo many chriſtian negroes. I hope they are only the firſt-fruits of a more glorious harveſt. Though the work may be at a ſtop for a while, fear not; JESUS will revive his own work in his own time. Notwithſtanding our blunders, imprudence, and the oppoſition of enemies from without, yet the counſel of the LORD ſhall ſtand, and he will ſet his king upon his holy hill of *Zion*. The Mediator's kingdom makes glorious advances here. I cannot tell you the hundredth part. I verily believe we ſhall ſee greater things abroad. I know you pray that I may have a proſperous journey to you, by the will of GOD. I expect to embark for *Georgia* in a few months. In the mean while, you ſhall not be forgotten by, dear Mr. *B*——,

Your moſt affectionate friend, brother and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXLVI.

To Mrs. T——, in South-Carolina.

Cambuſlang, Aug. 18, 1742.

My dear Friend,

I Am glad to hear by your ſiſter, that you are become a deſpiſed follower of the lowly JESUS.—O glorious character! I am perſuaded you had rather have that title truly applied to you, than to be empreſs of the univerſe. I long to ſee you, and to hear you tell what a happy change you feel. How does dear Mr. *T*——? Is he yet truly broken, and going hand in hand with you to heaven? Happy pair!—I know, by ſweet experience, the comforts you enjoy. Death itſelf ſhall

ſhall not part you. I hope, nothing that has happened to dear Mr. *B*—— will prove a ſtumbling block to your ſoul. Such things muſt be glory to him, that has ſaid "all things ſhall "work together for good." My dear friends, what a myſtery is the chriſtian life? Happy thoſe, who are acquainted with it. That it may be revealed more and more in your hearts, is the earneſt prayer of, dear friends,

Your moſt affectionate friend, brother and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXLVII.

To Mr. H—— H——.

Cambuſlang, Aug. 26, 1742.

My very dear Brother,

GLAD was I laſt night to receive a letter from your hands. I love your ſimple honeſt heart, and earneſtly pray the dear Redeemer to give you a true, laſting, abiding reſt in himſelf. Bleſſed be his name, I think I can ſay, through free grace, that I am in a meaſure entered into it, and know what it is by happy experience, to paſs from glory to glory every day. My dear brother, I am oppoſed on every ſide; the archers ſhoot ſore at me that I may fall, but the LORD is my helper. He cauſes my bow to abide in ſtrength, and makes me more than conqueror through his love. The account ſent with this, will ſhew you how often I have been enabled to preach; but with what efficacy and ſucceſs, pen cannot deſcribe. The glorious Redeemer ſeems to be advancing from congregation to congregation, carrying all before him. The Meſſrs. *E*——'s people have kept a faſt for me, and give out, that all the work now in *Scotland* is only deluſion, and by the agency of the devil. O, my dear brother, to what great lengths in bigotry and prejudice may good men run? Bleſſed be GOD, I can ſee the differences between GOD's children, and yet love them from my heart. What you ſaid about poor *Wales*, affected me. I laid upon my face this day, and for ſome time pleaded with groans unutterable, for direction in that, and ſeveral other matters of great conſequence. I fear my dear brother thinks too highly of me. Indeed, I feel myſelf to be a poor ſinner, and yet I am rich in

CHRIST,

CHRIST, and lean upon his bosom from morning to night; nay, all the night long. By his grace alone I am what I am; and if he is pleased to honour me so far, I should be glad to help the brethren in *Wales*. I am sorry to hear there has been such divisions. But dividing times generally precede settling times. Upon the receipt of your last, I wrote to Mr. *O*——. Last night I received his answer. He speaks very honourably of you, but thinks that you are too censorious, in condemning a whole society for the faults of but some, and too bigotted also to your own way. My dear brother will excuse this. I would not deal so freely, or take such liberty, did I not believe you would take it kindly. My brother, my soul loves you. Dear Miss *Nancy* wrote me word you was at my house, (I rejoiced) and that you prayed heartily for unworthy me. The LORD reward, and fill you with all joy and peace in believing! Our LORD is sovereign in his dealing with his dear children. I walk in much liberty. O free grace! Your being so exercised with inward conflicts, helps you to search hypocrites. But glory be to our heavenly Father, there is a glorious rest awaits us, and all the children of GOD. I think I feel a foretaste of it now; nay, I believe I feel the thing itself in a degree, and when I speak of it, I speak what I know. O infinitely condescending GOD! My brother, my heart is full. The LORD JESUS bless you, and fill your dear soul with all his fulness! So prays, with his whole heart,

Your most affectionate though most unworthy brother,
and willing servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXLVIII.

To Mrs. L——, in Bristol.

Cambuslang, Aug. 26, 1742.

Honoured Mother,

I Rejoice to hear that you have been so long under my roof. Blessed be GOD, that I have a house for my honoured mother to come to. You are heartily welcome to any thing my house affords, as long as you please. I am of the same mind now, as formerly. If need was, indeed these hands

should

ſhould adminiſter to your neceſſities. I had rather want myſelf than you ſhould. I ſhall be highly pleaſed when I come to *Briſtol*, and find you ſitting in your youngeſt ſon's houſe. O that I may ſit with you, in the houſe not made with hands eternal in the heavens! Ere long, your doom, honoured mother, will be fixed. You muſt ſhortly go hence, and be no more ſeen. Your only daughter, I truſt, is now in the paradiſe of GOD. Methinks I hear her ſay, "Mother, come up hither." JESUS, I am ſure, calls you in his word. May his ſpirit enable you to ſay, "LORD, lo I come!" My honoured mother, I am happier and happier every day. JESUS makes me exceeding happy in himſelf. I hope by Winter to be at *Briſtol*. If any enquire after me, pleaſe to tell them, I am well both in body and ſoul, and deſire them to help me to praiſe free and ſovereign grace? O that my dear, my very honoured mother may be made an everlaſting monument of it! How does my heart burn with love and duty to you? gladly would I waſh your aged feet, and lean upon your neck, and weep and pray 'till I could pray no more. With this I ſend you a thouſand dutiful ſalutations, and ten thouſand hearty and moſt humble thanks for all the pains you underwent in conceiving, bringing forth, nurſing, and bringing up, honoured mother,

Your moſt unworthy, though moſt dutiful ſon,
'till death,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXLIX.

To Mr. A——, in London.

Cambuſlang, Aug. 27, 1742.

My very dear Brother A——,

THIS day fortnight I came to this place, to aſſiſt at the ſacramental occaſion with ſeveral worthy miniſters of the church of *Scotland*. Such a paſſover has not been heard of. The voice of prayer and praiſe was heard all night. It was ſuppoſed, that between 30 and 40,000 people were aſſembled, and 3000 communicated. There were three tents. The miniſters were enlarged, and great grace was among the people. I preached once on *Saturday*, once on the LORD's Day

Day morning, ſerved five tables, and preached about ten at night to a great number in the Church-yard. Though it rained much, there was a great awakening. On *Monday* at ſeven in the morning, the Reverend Mr. *Webſter* preached, and there was a very great commotion, and alſo in the third ſermon when I preached, a very great and ſerious concern was viſible through the whole ſolemnity. The LORD's people went home much refreſhed. On *Thurſday* I preached twice at *Greenock*; on *Friday* three times at *Kilbride*, and again on *Saturday* once, and twice at *Stevenſon*; on *Sunday* four times at *Irvine*. On *Monday* once at *Irvine*, and three times at *Kilmarnock*; on *Tueſday* once at *Kilmarnock*, and four times at *Stewarton*; on *Wedneſday* once at *Stewarton*, and twice at the *Mearnes*; and yeſterday twice at this place. I never preached with ſo much apparent ſucceſs before. At *Greenock*, *Irvine*, *Kilbride*, *Kilmarnock*, and *Stewarton*, the concern was great: at the three laſt very extraordinary. The work ſeems to ſpread more and more. O, my friend, pray and give praiſe in behalf of the moſt unworthy wretch that was ever employed in the dear Redeemer's ſervice. I ſpeak this from my inmoſt ſoul. I muſt cry out continually, "Why me LORD, why me?" My dear brother *A*———, I love you dearly in the bowels of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. I think I could live with you always. The LORD, I think, hath given you a meek and teachable diſpoſition. O what is it to be as little children! I am glad to find, you ſo hunger and thirſt after a continual abiding reſt in GOD. Aſſure yourſelf, the LORD will fill and ſatisfy your ſoul. He is faithful, who hath promiſed, who alſo will do it. Wait, and thou ſhalt ſee and feel the ſalvation of GOD. I think I have ſeen it more for ſome days paſt, than in any journey before. Our Saviour loves to let us ſee yet greater things. O for a large heart to receive all the fulneſs of GOD! I rejoice to hear that the LORD is with you at the Tabernacle. May his glory appear, and ſhine in it more and more! I believe it will. I believe GOD will bleſs your ſchool. Our LORD's Diſciples are generally too much in a hurry; at leaſt I am. They are not content to wait. "He that believeth, doth not make haſte." O for a paſſive, tender, truly broken, child-like heart! that we could

watch

watch in reality, and from moment to moment hear the cry of every Chriſtian, with every call from GOD, whether by his providence or ſpirit. It is ſaid, that GOD brought and kept *Abraham* at his feet. O that we were always there, waiting for divine direction! Bleſſed be his name, I am for the moſt part at the feet of JESUS, and indeed he graciouſly teaches me moment after moment. I have many things before me now. I know brother *A*—— will help me by his prayers. Bleſſed be GOD, our heaven is begun here.

Your truly affectionate brother and
ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCL.

To Mr. S—— C——, in Deptford.

Glaſgow, Sept. 2, 1742.

My very dear Brother C——,

I Am juſt now come from the pulpit, wherein I have experienced much of the Redeemer's power, and ſeen his ſtately outgoings in the ſanctuary. My brother, the cry of my heart is, "and will GOD indeed dwell with ſuch a wretch as I am." Methinks a voice echo's from above, "I have dwelt in thee, I do dwell in thee, I will dwell in thee for evermore." My heart replies, "LORD, I believe and worſhip."

A heart that no deſire can move,
But ſtill to adore, believe, and love.

This, my dear brother, is the preſent, and indeed continual bent of my ſoul, which I truſt proſpers. I feel myſelf to grow more poor inwardly; I ſee, I am but a learner in the ſchool of CHRIST, and my dear Maſter teaches me new leſſons every day. About a week ago, I think he did more for me than ever I ſaw before. Glory be to GOD, that he is ſo much with you at *London*. I rejoice, yea and I will rejoice. I am amazed when I hear, as I do almoſt every day, of ſome freſh perſons wrought upon by my unworthy miniſtry. This humbles me very much, and brings me very low at the feet of the ever-loving JESUS. I dare not deny that I am one of his choſen; but I am jealous for myſelf and for thoſe about me, leſt we ſhould grieve the holy ſpirit, and oblige him to withdraw

for

for our ingratitude, unfruitfulneſs, pride, ſelfiſhneſs, and inſenſibility of the bleſſings we enjoy. Laſt night I went to ſleep quite angry, but chiefly with myſelf.—I ſaw that I had received much, and did ſo little for my GOD, and CHRIST, that I could feelingly ſmite upon my breaſt, lay my head upon my pillow, and cloſe my eyes with theſe words, "GOD be merciful to me a ſinner?" And to-day, what have I ſeen and felt, yea what do I now feel? My ſoul is ſwallowed up in GOD. His preſence is filling my ſoul, and renewing my bodily ſtrength. Here is free grace, my dear brother. Was you here, I think I could now warm your heart with a lecture upon the unparalleled love of JESUS; but time is ſhort: bleſſed be GOD, an eternity is before me, but "eternity too ſhort to utter all his praiſe." I think I love you and yours unfeignedly, and rejoice that you enjoy ſweet fellowſhip together. Glory be to GOD, that you have gotten many living ſtones. Truſt the great Redeemer, the all-wiſe contriver and perfecter of his ſpiritual temple, to put them together. I have been faulty in looking too much to foreign help, and deſpiſing that which GOD had given me. When our LORD was to feed the multitude, he would not create new bread, but multiplied the loaves that were already at hand. "Ye need not ſend them away, give ye them to eat," ſaid he: ſo ſay I to my dear brethren at the tabernacle. "Work with the materials you have." In doing the work, GOD will teach you how to do it.—Experience will grow up with the work itſelf. Thus GOD hath dealt with me, and ſo he continues to deal. May his bleſſed ſpirit guide you all into all truth, and give you a right judgment in all things! I love to ſee the little child in others, though I ſee ſo little of it in my unworthy ſelf. But I muſt not exceed; other buſineſs demands my attention. Write to me often about the ſtate of the church. Mr. *E*——'s people rather run greater and greater lengths in miſguided zeal. Our love to all. I intreat a continuance of your prayers, becauſe the archers are ſhooting from every quarter at, dear brother *C*——,

Your poor weak brother in the kingdom and patience of JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLI.

To Brother T——, in London.

Glaſgow, September 4, 1742.

My dear Brother,

I Hope this letter will find you, where your laſt left you, at the feet of the meek and lowly JESUS. My dear brother, it is a delightful ſituation: *Mary* found it ſo. O true poverty of ſpirit, what a rare, yet what a precious thing it is! The foundation of it, is a deep, abiding knowledge of the corruption of the heart, and its deſperate wickedneſs. I find more and more the neceſſity of leaning upon my beloved, whilſt travelling through the wilderneſs of this world. I find I am yet but learning in the ſchool of CHRIST, and ſcarce know any thing as I ought to know. I often bluſh at a ſenſe of my unfruitfulneſs, ingratitude, &c. and yet am made continually to rejoice in his great ſalvation. My brother, preſs on and faint not; though faint, yet ſtill purſue. When your father and mother forſake you, the LORD will take you up. I do not wonder at your father's oppoſition. His letter beſpeaks him to be a man of a very bad ſpirit. I thought proper to burn it. My brother, pray for him, and beg of JESUS that you may behave with all meekneſs, humility and love. I would enlarge, but time is ſhort, and much of my dear Maſter's buſineſs is lying before me. For the preſent, adieu! My kind love to all. May the LORD keep you unſpotted from the world. You ſhall overcome by the blood of the Lamb. We ſee wond'rous things here. Pray and give thanks for

Your affectionate friend, and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLII.

To Mr. B——, in London.

Glaſgow, Sept. 4, 1742.

My dear Brother B——,

I Embrace a few moments to anſwer your kind letter. Not want of love but leiſure prevented my doing it before; yet I have not forgotten you in my prayers. Your caſe hath

been upon my heart. I pray GOD you may be enabled, at this time especially, to plead the promise of temporal blessings. Remember, my dear brother, you can call GOD, your GOD and Father: if so, your GOD will supply all your wants. These words were so pressed upon my soul once when in extremity, that I hope I shall never forget them: "Be careful for nothing, but by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto GOD." I have for these eight or nine years past, had no visible settled fund, but fetched in all temporal supplies by pleading the promises. My GOD never failed me, he never will. This morning I have been lecturing upon *Elisha*'s multiplying the widow's oil. The LORD GOD of *Elisha* is yet living. O that you may have faith to apply to him. O that you may be willing to be made poor. My brother, I find freedom in writing to you. Blessed be GOD, who hath made any thing that I have spoken of use to your soul. Tell your wife, she must take my advice, and pray with you. She sins, I think, in omitting it. I rejoice to hear that the LORD is with you at the tabernacle. May he be with you more and more! My brother, GOD is doing wonders here indeed. Every day he shews us great things. Yesterday, and the day before, how did he display his power? I am lost when I think of it: O that GOD should ever dwell with such an ill and hell-deserving wretch as I am! Amazing! Thy mercies, O GOD, they humble me. Adieu.

Your unworthy and affectionate friend and brother,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLIII.

To Mr. J—— N——.

Edinburgh, Sept. 13, 1742.

My very dear brother N——,

I Have just been writing to our dear brother *G—— T——*, and now sit down to write to you. Both your letters came to me at the same time, and had I not been used to trials of that nature, would have affected me much. Dear Mr. *T——* speaks many things, that I know are too true of the *Moravian Brethren*; but his spirit seems to be too much heated, and I fear some of his own wild-fire is mixed with that sacred fire of zeal, which comes from GOD. My dear bro-

ther, I want to be more like unto GOD, who sees and corrects all things that are amiss, and yet continues unmoved in his own nature. I want to be more like unto JESUS, GOD blessed for evermore! who sees all the quarrels and heart-risings of his children one amongst another, and yet bears with, and loves them still. My heart doth not reproach me, for my kindness and friendship with those that differ from me. I think I have been led by the word and spirit of GOD into this part of my conduct; but I confess that I am jealous, and trust with a godly jealousy, over many who talk and write of the Lamb, and who mimic some particular persons in their outward way of behaviour, but yet are not truly poor in spirit. They act too much like me, who at my first setting out imitated the outward shew of humility in Monsieur *Dezenly*, before I got true simplicity of heart. Indeed, I have too little of it now. But, blessed be GOD by his free grace, I am what I am. I think I can say I am made unfeignedly happy in the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and can discover in some measure between a false and disguised holiness. Glory be to the Redeemer's name, I walk in light and liberty, and am enabled to rejoice in the LORD always. Though I can say to corruption, "Thou art my sister," yet I can with a full assurance of faith at all times say, "GOD is my father, and all is mine, because I am CHRIST's." My dear, very dear host and brother, I pray GOD that you and I may more experience the glorious liberty of the children of GOD: a liberty not from the in-being, but from the reigning power and dominion of sin. JESUS came to make us kings, as well as priests, and it is our privilege to reign upon the earth. We that believe, do enter into rest. Faith is of an all-conquering nature, and causes us to trample sin, death, and hell under our feet. My dear brother, I experience more, unspeakably more of the Redeemer's power, than when I saw you last. My happiness increases daily, and I am persuaded will increase, 'till grace is swallowed up in glory. My principles as to the fundamentals of the gospel are just the same as yours. I cannot renounce those precious truths, that I have felt the power of, and which were taught me not of man but of GOD. At the same time, I would love all that love JESUS, though they differ from me in some points. The angels love all the true worshippers of JESUS every where,

and

and why ſhould not we? If our brethren will quarrel with us, let us not quarrel with them. O my dear brother, I pray our dear Redeemer to give you meekneſs to thoſe, who may not ſee ſo far as you do. I entreat you, my dear brother, to overcome their evil with your good. Zeal for GOD may excite others to oppoſe you, as well as you to oppoſe them; therefore bear with and love them. This will ſhew you to be a diſciple indeed, and to have that mind, which was in CHRIST JESUS. O that we grew up into his divine likeneſs, and were indeed conformed to our great Exemplar! How truly ſimple and void of guilt ſhould we be! Our brother, I fear, has not dealt uprightly with me. At firſt he called me a ſervant of GOD, and then a blaſphemer and deceiver, and ſaid, I ſhould be in a miſerable condition. Pray tell *P*—— of it, and acquaint him at the ſame time, that I grow happier and happier in the Lamb every day, and more and more honoured by the great Head and King of the Church. O ſimplicity! whether art thou fled?—In a ſhort time I hope to embark for *Georgia*, and then, GOD willing, I ſhall ſee you face to face. Wonderful things have been doing here; things unſpeakable and full of glory. The confuſions abroad are no greater than what I expected to hear of. Juſt ſuch a ſcene hath been at home; but the glorious *Emmanuel* will over-rule all for good. Why have you not written to my poor family in *Georgia*? I am perſuaded great things will come from the orphan-houſe. O remember, my dear brother, to exerciſe catholic love in all its branches. I love and long much to ſee you. I ſhall write, GOD willing, to Mr. *W*———. I find his ſpirit is alſo imbittered. May the LORD ſweeten all your hearts! With hearty thanks for all favours, I am, my very dear brother,

Moſt affectionately yours in the glorious JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLIV.

To Mr E——, in Philadelphia.

Edinburgh, Sept. 14, 1742.

My very dear Brother,

YOUR kind letter came to hand a few days ago, and I rejoice to hear that you are now happy. I wiſh you may be really ſettled and rooted and grounded in love, and

no longer so tossed about as you have been in times past. I find many talk and boast of rest, of which I fear they have not yet got a feeling possession. There is as much difference between these two, as between a shadow and the substance. Far be it from me, to think thus of you, my dear brother. No, I believe our Saviour has really loved and washed you in his blood, and redeemed you unto GOD, that you might be a king and priest, and reign upon the earth. There is plenteous redemption in the blood of JESUS. He came, not only that we might have life, but that we might have it more abundantly. He that believeth on JESUS, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. They that believe enter into rest. O glorious redemption! O glorious liberty of the children of GOD! Blessed are they who have not seen, and yet have believed; they, who having not seen, yet have loved JESUS, and do rejoice with joy unspeakable, even with joy that is full of glory. Blessed be GOD, that you feel more of this than you did a twelvemonth ago. In a year's time, you will be ashamed to think what a dwarf you are now. A believer is to pass from glory to glory. It is ignorance and pride that makes us think we have already attained. The more we are acquainted with JESUS, the more we shall be acquainted with our own hearts, and grow more truly poor in spirit every day. Indeed, my dear brother, I am a thousand times happier than when you saw me. JESUS hath saved me from many corruptions, and is every day transforming me more and more into his own likeness. I cannot rest, unless I feel a sensible growth in my soul, and find that I get more of the true artless simplicity that was in JESUS. Blessed be GOD for that fulness which is in CHRIST, out of which we are all to receive grace for grace. Many, many souls have lately been drawing out of this fulness. I am amazed at his love to me! O free grace! O sovereign, distinguishing, unmerited love!—I think you did well in receiving some particular persons into your house. "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers," says the Apostle. I cannot think it is right, to be so far carried away with an orthodox scheme, as to neglect acts of love to the members of CHRIST's body. Give me leave, my dear brother, to behave with all meekness toward those, who may not be so well affected toward such whom you love. If you do not take care, and

keep

keep close to the blessed JESUS, your spirit may be imbittered, and you may yet insensibly sink into bigotry. Some of our *English* friends, I am sure, have done so. It is a blessed thing to be kept free. JESUS can do this for you, my dear brother, and I am persuaded he will. In the love of a crucified JESUS,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLV.

To Mr. M———, at Cambuslang.

Edinburgh, Sept. 15, 1742.

Rev. and dear Brother,

YOUR kind letter I received this morning. I wonder you can love me, for I feel myself more unworthy every day; and yet, dear Sir, the King of Kings still delights to honour me. At *Cumbernauld*, and *Torphichen*, the LORD was with me. I was much led to discourse upon walking with GOD, and had a sweet opening upon those words, "And "*Enoch* walked with GOD, &c." Since I have been at *Edinburgh*, the LORD has much blessed me, and given me some fresh teachings from his blessed spirit. I believe hundreds are fed day by day. O dear Sir, help me to adore free grace. May GOD reward you for all kindnesses shewn to me and mine! Indeed, dear Sir, I have scarce patience with myself. I can do so little in the day for GOD, that when I go to bed at night, I am quite ashamed. I trust I shall begin to do something now. Dear Sir, help me, help me by your prayers, that I may stir up the gift of GOD that is in me. I shall not easily forget you; fear not, the LORD will yet be with you. I have sent to Messrs. *O*—— and *L*——. I fear I cannot reach either of their places; but, GOD willing, I purpose to come home once more to *Cambuslang*, and then must take a long, long farewel. Blessed be GOD, we shall meet by and by, never to part any more. Then, dear Sir, our warfare will be accomplished, and the archers will shoot at us no more. My soul glows with love whilst I am writing. Sometimes I am enabled to look within the veil, and to take a view of the promised land. I am nothing, but CHRIST is my all. For the present, adieu! Dear Sir, adieu! My love to *Robert*, surnamed

Nathaniel. All with me dearly love him. O join with him in praying, and giving thanks for us, especially, dear Mr. *M*———, for

Your weak, unworthy, though happy brother and servant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLVI.

To Mr. F———, *in Pensylvania.*

Edinburgh, Sept. 22, 1742.

My dear Brother F———,

I Received your two kind letters, dated *June* the 1st and 6th, and can only say, CHRIST is king in *Zion*, and orders all things well. I think you cannot have a scene of greater confusion among you, than there has been in *England.* But blessed be GOD, matters are brought to a better issue, and though we cannot agree in principles, yet we agree in love. Tho', as you know, I am clear in the truths of the gospel, yet I find that principles of themselves, without the spirit of GOD, will not unite any set of men whatever; and where the spirit of GOD is in any great degree, there will be union of heart, though there may be difference in sentiments. This I have learnt, my dear brother, by happy experience, and find great freedom and peace in my soul thereby. This makes me to love many, though I cannot agree with them in some of their principles. I dare not look upon them as wilful deceivers, but as persons who hazard their lives for the sake of the gospel.—Mr. *W*—— I think is wrong in some things, and Mr. *L*—— wrong also; yet I believe that both Mr. *L*—— and Mr. *W*———, and others, with whom we do not agree in all things, will shine bright in glory. It is best therefore for a gospel-minister, simply and powerfully to preach those truths he has been taught of GOD, and to meddle as little as possible with those who are children of GOD, though they should differ in many things. This would keep the heart sweet, and at the same time not betray the truths of JESUS. I have tried both the disputing, and the quiet way, and find the latter far preferable to the former. I have not given way to the *Moravian* Brethren, or Mr. *W—y*, or to any, whom I thought in an error, no not for an hour.

But

But I think it beſt not to diſpute, when there is no probability of convincing. I pray you, for CHRIST's ſake, to take heed leſt your ſpirit ſhould be imbittered, when you are ſpeaking or writing for GOD. This will give your adverſaries advantage over you, and make people think your paſſion is the effect of your principles. Since I have been in *England* this time, *Calvin*'s example has been very much preſſed upon me. You know how *Luther* abuſed him. As we are of *Calviniſtical* principles, I truſt we ſhall in this reſpect imitate *Calvin*'s practice, and ſhew all meekneſs to thoſe who may oppoſe. My dear brother, you will not be offended at my uſing this freedom. I am a poor creature, unworthy to adviſe you; but I ſimply tell you a little of my own experience. May the LORD give you, and all that ſtand up for the doctrines of the goſpel, a right judgment in all things! For JESUS CHRIST's ſake, as much as in you lies, put a ſtop to diſputing. It imbitters the ſpirit, ruffles the ſoul, and hinders it from hearing the ſmall ſtill voice of the Holy Ghoſt. May you be filled with all joy and peace in believing! GOD has been very gracious to me here. Wonderful things have been done in *Scotland*. When I ſhall come to you, I cannot as yet determine. I hope to embark in a few months. In the mean time, be pleaſed to remember me to all that love the glorious *Emmanuel*, and accept this in tendereſt love from, my very dear brother,

Your moſt affectionate though moſt unworthy brother and ſervant in the kingdom and patience of JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLVII.

To Mr. H———.

Edinburgh, Sept. 24, 1742.

My moſt endeared Friend and Brother,

YOUR ſhort letter, dated *July* the 14th, I received two days ago, to my great ſatisfaction. I am glad my dear family is removed to Mr. *B*——, and rejoice that our glorious GOD had raiſed him and his brother up, to be ſuch friends in time of need. Our all-wiſe Saviour ſaw this, and therefore ſent them to be converted at the Orphan-houſe. O LORD, thou art fearful in praiſes, glorious in holineſs, doing

wonders! I truſt this will find you, my dear friends, and my dear lambs, happily ſettled at *Bethesda*. I cannot think, GOD will give you over into the enemies hands, or that he will ſuffer the enemy to abide in *Georgia* for any conſiderable time. My thoughts have been variouſly exerciſed, but my heart kept ſtedfaſt and joyful in the LORD of all Lords, whoſe mercy endureth for ever. The kings taking *Lot*, and *Abraham* recovering him out of their hands, hath been much preſſed upon my heart. *Abraham*'s going into the land of *Canaan*, and being driven out by a grievous famine ſoon after he came there, has alſo been applied to my ſoul. And thoſe words of *Moſes*, "Theſe enemies which you ſee, you ſhall ſee them no more," have fallen with great warmth, and wait upon me. Theſe things put together, keep my mind humbly depending upon GOD, in a full aſſurance that ſome great and good event for the kingdom of JESUS will ere long be brought about. I am ſupported in a peculiar manner, and kept from ſtaggering through unbelief.—With this, I ſend you a continuation of the Orphan-houſe account, which I printed to ſatisfy the public, and to promote future collections. The news about the *Spaniards*, perhaps may ſtrike a damp upon the collection at this time; but even this ſhall work for good. GOD has a wheel within a wheel. O, my dear brother, how do I long to be with you! You need not ſay, "if poſſible now come over," for I have long wiſhed for the wings of a dove to fly to *Georgia*. I yet owe upwards of two hundred and fifty pounds in *England*, upon the Orphan-houſe account, and have nothing towards it. How is the world miſtaken about my circumſtances: worth nothing myſelf, embarraſſed for others, and yet looked upon to flow in riches? Our extremity is GOD's opportunity. O faith, thou haſt an all-conquering power! ſurely, my dear man, you and the reſt of you will grow now, in this time of trial. Fear not, neither be diſmayed: the LORD your GOD will fight for you. I put my truſt in him, and through his mercy I ſhall not miſcarry. He ſtill ſtrengthens me to go on from conquering to conquer. I pray for you, I think and dream of you almoſt continually. I long, I long to be with you, and methinks could willingly be found at the head of you kneeling and praying, though a *Spaniard*'s ſword ſhould be put to my throat. But alas! I know not how I

ſhould

ſhould behave, if put to the trial: only we have a promiſe, "that as our day is, ſo our ſtrength ſhall be." I would gladly write to you all, but being ſo variouſly employed, having the ſuperintendency of ſo many ſouls and ſo many ſpiritual affairs, in many different places, I feel a little of what St. *Paul* ſays, when he wrote theſe words, "beſides that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches." What am I? LORD, I adore and worſhip! I hope ere now you have had letters from brother *G*——· and *Philadelphia* friends. Some there, are ſuſpicious that I am joined with the *Moravian* Brethren, but indeed I am not. My principles are ſtill the ſame; only as I believe many of them love the LORD JESUS, I would love and be friendly to them, as I would be to all others, who I think bear the image of our common Maſter, notwithſtanding ſome of my principles differ from theirs, and are as far diſtant as the Eaſt is from the Weſt. Glory be to GOD, for keeping me ſtedfaſt to thoſe truths, which himſelf and not man hath taught me. I feel the power of them more and more every day, and am continually made happier and happier in the righteouſneſs of the glorious Redeemer. O free, ſovereign, diſtinguiſhing, electing, everlaſting, infinitely condeſcending love! it quite amazes me. The thoughts of this love carry me above every thing. My dear friend, the *Spaniards* cannot rob us of this, nor can men, or devils. It is immutable and eternal as GOD himſelf. May the meditation on this, lead us nearer and nearer to GOD in CHRIST, that we may every day, every hour, every moment be more and more conformed to his bleſſed image, and ripen more and more for eternal glory. But I muſt have done. Adieu! my dear man, adieu! I am ready to weep tears of love. Humbly hoping, that I ſhall ſhortly hear of the ſpiritual and temporal welfare of you all, I ſubſcribe myſelf, with the utmoſt ſincerity and affection,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLVIII.

To the Reverend Dr. C———, in Boston.

Edinburgh, Sept. 24, 1742.

Reverend and dear Sir,

TO my great and abundant satisfaction, I received your long wished for letter of *June* 3. It was late at night ere it came to hand; but I could not go to rest without reading it. I read, and rejoiced, and prayed for the writer with my whole heart. O reverend and dear Sir, GOD only knows how closely I am knit to the dear ministers and people of *New-England*. They are ever upon my heart, and it rejoiced me to find I was not forgotten (unworthy as I am) by them. Dear Sir, I am glad to hear that the work still goes on; be not surprized, if you are forsaken. *Paul* was served so, and when I came to *England* most of my old friends and spiritual children were exceedingly prejudiced against me. Our great high-priest sees these trials to be necessary for us, to try our faith, and teach us to cease from man. I hope they have produced this blessed effect in some measure upon my soul. There seems to be such a scene in *Philadelphia*, as we have had in old *England*. I have wrote to Mr. *T*———. He in a late letter thinks me too charitable; but my conscience doth not reproach me for that. My principles are still the same. I embrace the calvinistical scheme, not because *Calvin*, but JESUS CHRIST, I think, has taught it to me. I go on preaching the cross and power of the Redeemer, and desire to say as little as possible about others, lest thereby I should divert people's minds from the simplicity of the gospel. I have often found that opposing, instead of hurting, makes erroneous people become more considerable. This made me wish, that the *Boston* ministers would not take up so much time in speaking against the Exhorters. It will only set the people the more upon following after them; but I cannot well judge at such a distance, and indeed I find I am such a poor creature, that I scarce know any thing yet, as I ought to know. At the same time, I will not deny what I have received; no, this would be dishonouring my dear Saviour. He makes me daily more and more happy in himself, and I continually rejoice in his great salvation.

salvation. At present he supports me in an uncommon manner, and the news of the *Spaniards* attacking *Georgia* affects me no otherwise, than to increase my faith and confidence in him, whom I am sure careth for me and mine. O dear Sir, what a glorious thing is divine faith! May you have much of it, and feel the power of it more and more every day! With repeated salutations and returns of love, I once more subscribe myself, reverend and dear Sir,

Your most affectionate friend, younger brother,
and servant in the glorious gospel of
the ever blessed JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CCCCLIX.

To Jonathan B———, Esq; in New-England.

Honoured Sir, *Edinburgh, Sept.* 25, 1742.

I Rejoiced to hear by the reverend and dear Dr. *C*——, that you are retired from the world, full of piety and devotion. I congratulate you, honoured Sir, upon your happy change, and pray that you may be filled with all the fulness of GOD. Exceedingly engaged as I am, I could not but send a line to you, because I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I remember your command; I have you upon my heart, and pray the glorious *Emmanuel* to do more abundantly for you and yours, than you are able to ask or think. It is impossible to tell you what the LORD hath done for unworthy me. Honoured Sir, I feel a bliss I cannot express. My happiness in JESUS increases daily. I am only ashamed of my unfruitfulness, and the little I do for GOD. Indeed, honoured Sir, I could wish for a thousand lives. My JESUS should have them all. Methinks I hear you say, "thus it is with me." Hail then happy man! All generations shall call you blessed. Honoured Sir, my soul is full in the midst of many trials. O what a glorious redemption hath JESUS purchased for us! Indeed it is a plenteous redemption. By the power of his death we are enabled to tread sin, death, and satan under our feet. This is the present frame of my soul. O free grace! unsearchable riches! The brightness of it dazzles the eyes of my faith. LORD, I adore and worship in the temple of my heart!

heart! Honoured Sir, be pleased to accept these few lines from a heart overflowing with love to GOD, and for his great name sake to you. With most humble respects, and affectionate returns of gratitude for all favours, I beg leave to subscribe myself, honoured Sir,

Your most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLX.

To Mr. E———, in Philadelphia.

Edinburgh, Sept. 25, 1742.

My very dear Brother E——,

SINCE I wrote last, your other kind letter, dated *July* 24, came to hand, by which I find matters at *Philadelphia* are much the same as when you wrote before. I pray GOD to give me wisdom, and a right understanding, to judge of those different jarring accounts that are sent me. As far as I am able to determine, I think some who have the truths of GOD on their side, defend themselves with too great a mixture of their own spirit, and by this means perhaps some persons may be prejudiced even against truth itself. This is one rock, I pray GOD, my dear brother, to keep your soul from splitting against. Again, I think the *M——n* Brethren shew a better and milder spirit in the general; but many of their principles deviate as far from the truths of JESUS CHRIST, as the east is from the west, or the north from the south. I wish you may not have gone a step too far. It was unjust for Mr. *B——*'s brother to be denied preaching in the new building. Shall I commend Mr. *B——* for this? I commend him not. The brethren should have some other place to preach in, and not make that house a Babel. I cannot give up truth for them, or for any other under heaven. I find they are as weak and fallible as those whom they judge not to have drank so deeply of the spirit of CHRIST; and therefore, my dear man, though we love all, we must be upon our guard, and follow not man's teaching, but the teaching of the Holy Ghost. Though principles are not to be rested in, yet it is a good thing to have a clear head as well as a clean heart. Some people make nothing of principles; but why are they so zealous in propagating their own? I think, my dear brother, I am a happy

sinner,

ſinner, and have really entered into an abiding reſt in GOD, through the LORD JESUS CHRIST; but yet the ſtirrings of corruption I expect in ſome degree or other, till I breathe my laſt. This I hope is all that dear Mr. *T*—— inſiſts on. My dear brother, love the brotherhood, but do not give up the truths of GOD; and when you are brought off from idolizing one creature, take care you do not inſenſibly fall into idolizing another. Do not think that all things the moſt refined chriſtian in the world does, is right; or that all principles are wrong, becauſe ſome that hold them are too imbittered in their ſpirits. It is hard for good men, when the truths of GOD are oppoſed, to keep their temper, eſpecially at the firſt attack. Nothing but the all-conquering blood of the dear Redeemer can deſtroy the wild-fire in the heart. You will ſee what I have wrote to the dear Truſtees. I hope our loving Saviour will incline you to comply with my advice. I believe it is from him, and will much tend to the proſperity of Zion. That, I truſt, we have all at heart. I pray GOD we may be enabled ſo to act, as to do nothing to obſtruct it, but bear and forbear with one another in love, and give way in ſome things to promote the common good. You ſee, my dear man, how freely I write to you. It is out of the fulneſs of my heart. I hope you and I ſhall be happily ſurprized, in finding each other better than we expected. GOD forbid that we ſhould live one hour without growing more like the bleſſed Lamb of GOD. I am too credibly informed, that ſome make it their buſineſs to prejudice my friends againſt me. Such wiſdom cometh not from above. They are as the falſe apoſtles, of whom Saint *Paul* ſpoke, "They would exclude us, that you might affect them." But glory be to free grace! I can repoſe myſelf in JESUS, and am happy in him. However I may be dealt with by man, bleſſed be his name, I am now happy in the midſt of various trials, even beyond expreſſion. I only add, through grace I have laid the foundation; let others beware how they build thereon. Adieu, my dear brother. I am, with cordial reſpects and affection,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLXI.

To the Reverend Mr. E—— J——, in Wales.

Edinburgh, Oct. 6, 1742.

My very dear Brother,

YESTERDAY your kind and profitable letter came to hand. My dear wife being embarked, I opened, read, and now ſnatch a few moments to anſwer it. I took your hints upon *Jacob*'s ladder, and preached upon it with freedom yeſterday in the afternoon. I truſt ſome will be induced to begin to climb, and others be ſtirred to climb faſter; at leaſt I ſhall myſelf for one, for indeed I am aſhamed I have mounted no higher yet. Bleſſed be GOD, I am aſcended ſo far as to have the world almoſt out of my ſight, and I ſee my dear maſter ſtanding at the top reaching out his hand, ready to receive me up into heaven. Indeed, my dear brother, the LORD hath dealt moſt bountifully with me; he gives me to rejoice in all his diſpenſations towards me. It well becometh GOD's children to give thanks for all things that befal them, ſince it is GOD's will concerning them. I am taught more and more every day to live by faith in the Son of GOD, who loved and gave himſelf for me. GOD keeps me, and brings me where I would deſire to be, at his feet, waiting his will, and watching the motions of his bleſſed ſpirit, word, and providence. Here I find ſafety and refuge amidſt the various ſtorms of oppoſition and reproach which I daily meet with. GOD is on my ſide, I will not fear what men nor devils can ſay of, or do unto me. The dear Meſſrs. *E*———*s* have dreſſed me in very black colours.—Mr. *G*———'s pamphlet will ſhew you how black. Dear men, I pity them. Writing I fear will be in vain. Surely they muſt grieve the holy ſpirit much. O for a mind diveſted of all ſects and names and parties! I think it is my one ſimple aim to promote the kingdom of JESUS, without partiality and without hypocriſy, indefinitely amongſt all. I care not if the name of *George Whitefield* be baniſhed out of the world, ſo that JESUS be exalted in it. Glory be to his great name, we have ſeen much of his power and greatneſs in *Scotland*. The work in the weſt ſtill goes on and increaſes. Laſt ſabbath-day, and *Monday*, very great things, greater than ever, were ſeen at *Kilſyth*. There is a great

great awakening alſo at *Muthel*, and many living ſtones building up in *Edinburgh*. I preach twice every day with great power, and walk in liberty and love. At the ſame time I ſee and feel my vileneſs, and take the bleſſed JESUS to be my righteouſneſs and all. I purpoſe, GOD willing, to go through *Newcaſtle* and *Yorkſhire* to *England*. *Ireland* I believe muſt be left till another circuit. In about three weeks, I purpoſe, GOD willing, to leave *Scotland*, and hope to ſpend a month ere long in *Wales*. My dear and honoured brother, I hope the LORD will give you an heart to pray for me, for indeed I am a very poor ſinner, and many are waiting for my halting; but JESUS is able and willing to make me ſtand. I have been much ſtrengthened, ſince the *Spaniards* have invaded *Georgia*. I think I am like the ark ſurrounded on all ſides with waves, but through free rich grace am enabled to ſwim above all. Ere long, I ſhall reſt on mount *Zion* in the arms of my beloved JESUS. Here is love would make me drop a tear, and ſet my pen a writing quicker, but other buſineſs calls for me. Dear Sir, be pleaſed to pray for me, and remember me to your dear wife, and all the followers of the Lamb. Pray write to Mr. M^c *C*—— immediately, and ſend as often as you can, dear Mr. *J*———, to

Your weak, unworthy, but truly affectionate
brother and ſervant, in the kingdom
and patience of JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXII.

To Colonel G——.

Honoured Sir, *Edinburgh, October* 7, 1742.

THOUGH I never had the pleaſure of ſeeing you, yet I have often prayed for you, and can aſſure you I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I hope you will not be offended with me, for troubling you with this. Your honoured lady tells me, you will not. Love, I am perſuaded, inclines me to write, and I doubt not but you will receive it in the ſame ſpirit. Dear Sir, I rejoice to hear that you are a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST, and that you delight to fight the Redeemer's battles. May you be covered with all his armours and filled with all his fulneſs! I have the pleaſure

ſure often to go without the camp, and to bear a little of his ſacred reproach, and I prefer it to all the treaſures in the world. Weak as I am, my JESUS makes me more than conqueror through his love. He has brought mighty things to paſs here, and gotten himſelf the victory in many hearts. I truſt, there is not a day paſſes but ſome poor creature or another is plucked as a brand out of the burning. I wiſh I could hear GOD was more in the camp. Bleſſed be his name for raiſing you up, honoured Sir, to lift a ſtandard for him. May you be endued with the meekneſs of *Moſes*, the courage of *Joſhua*, the zeal of *Paul*, and a large portion of the bleſſed ſpirit of CHRIST! I hope, honoured Sir, you will now and then remember me a poor ſinner, and ſpeak a word for me to the King of kings and LORD of lords, that I may not turn my head in the day of battle, but rather die for, than deny him in any wiſe. Neither you nor yours are forgotten by me. Indeed I am a poor creature, but happy, very happy in the once crucified, but now exalted JESUS. For his ſake, and in his great name, I beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured Sir,

Your affectionate humble ſervant, &c.

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXIII.

To the Reverend Mr. J—— W——.

Edinburgh, October 11, 1742.

Reverend and dear Sir,

ABOUT ten days ago, I ſent you a packet by my dear wife, which I hope you will have received ere this comes to hand. Yeſterday morning I had your kind letter dated *October* 5. In anſwer to the firſt part of it, I ſay, "Let old things paſs away, and all things become new." I can heartily ſay, "Amen" to the latter part of it. "Let the king live for ever, and controverſy die." It has died with me long ago. I ſhall be glad to ſee the extract of your journal. Be pleaſed to ſend it immediately, under cover, to Mr. *E*——, member of parliament in *Edinburgh*. I ſhall not leave *Scotland* in leſs than three weeks. Before yours came, I had engaged to go through *Newcaſtle* in my way to *London*. I rejoice to hear the LORD has bleſſed your dear brother's labours. I am enabled to preach twice daily with great power, and find I walk

I walk in light and liberty continually. Like the ark, I am ſurrounded on all ſides, but enabled to ſwim triumphantly over all. O free grace! I thank you, dear Sir, for praying for me, and thank our common LORD for putting it in your heart ſo to do. I have been upon my knees praying for you and yours. O that nothing but love, lowlineſs, and ſimplicity may be among us. It grieves me to ſee what a ſad ſpirit prevails among Mr. *E*——'s people. Father, forgive them! I truſt you will remember my poor orphans. GOD gives me ſtrong faith for them, though no news yet of the *Spaniards* leaving *Georgia*. Yeſterday morning a dear little hoſpital girl went off in triumph. The work is ſtill increaſing in *Scotland*, eſpecially at *Kilſyth*. Surely we ſhall ſee great things ere long. Dear friend, my ſoul is on fire. O let us not fall out in the way! Let us bear with, and forbear one another in love. GOD be praiſed for giving you ſuch a mind. My kind love to all that love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity. In much haſte, and with great thanks for your laſt letter, I ſubſcribe myſelf, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, though younger brother,
in the goſpel of our glorious *Emmanuel*,
G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXIV.

To Mrs. Ann D——, in Huntingdonſhire.

Edinburgh, October 13, 1742.

My very dear Siſter,

WITH great pleaſure I received your kind letters. They increaſed that love, which I had before to the writer of them. I redeem a few moments to return you an anſwer to them, and am aſhamed to think how I put you off; but I ſee you conſider my circumſtances, and love to our dear JESUS inclines you to excuſe me. Bleſſed be GOD, I can ſtill ſend you an account of the increaſe of *Emmanuel*'s kingdom. I preach always twice, ſometimes three or four times in a day. The people are more eager than ever, and much ſolid work is done for GOD. My ſtrength is daily renewed. Still I deſire to cry, grace! grace! I am fondled exceedingly, I ſcarce have any damp. My ſoul continually magnifies the LORD, and my ſpirit rejoices in GOD

my Saviour. I know you will help me to praiſe him. I collected laſt week 128*l.* for my poor orphans. I have ſent you an account of them. You will continue writing to, and praying for my dear family. I hope to ſee you before I embark. By this, you will receive a line from one Mr. *R*——, an humble walker with GOD, and Mr. *T*——, a bookſeller, who I believe loves the LORD JESUS in ſincerity. Pray anſwer them. I would have your correſpondence enlarged, and therefore I ſet other people writing to you, though I cannot write ſo much myſelf. My dear ſiſter, adieu. The LORD be with you, and yours. I am now in a lady's family, whom GOD has bleſſed.—We have ſeveral ſuch here. With great ſincerity and affection, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Ever yours, in yours and mine,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXV.

To Mr. T——, in Edinburgh.

Glaſgow, October 20, 1742.

Dear Mr. T——,

YOUR letter much refreſhed me. Thanks be to GOD, for putting it into your heart to write to unworthy me. The bleſſed JESUS hath been the author of our friendſhip, and therefore it will be bleſſed. I rejoice much, that the LORD is with you and your miniſters. May you all increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD! O that the ſocieties may remember to pray and give thanks on my behalf. Dear Mr. *T*——, what deliverances hath the LORD wrought for me? Before the news came of the *Spaniards* leaving *Georgia*, the words came to my mind, that were preſſed on me in the park with great power: "Theſe enemies which you have now ſeen, you ſhall ſee no more." What a life is a life of faith? I know I am reckoned enthuſiaſtic, even by many chriſtian friends, in reſpect to my Orphan-houſe; but "he that believeth, doth not make haſte." I find we muſt be tried by friends, as well as by foes. All is intended to bring us nearer to the friend of all. I hope I improved my intereſt in him juſt now, for you and yours, and for all *Edinburgh* friends. As ſoon as we had peruſed the letters, we kneeled down, and prayed, and gave thanks. Good news came from *London*. I hope, next poſt,

to hear that our dear friends have got safe thither. O what reason have I to be thankful! Help me still, my dear Mr. *T*——, to praise the LORD. I hope to be with you next week. In the mean time pray for, and if leisure permit, drop a line to, dear Mr. *T*——,

Ever yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXVI.

To Mr. J—— T——, in Edinburgh.

Dear Mr T——, *London, Nov.* 6, 1742.

ABOUT five this evening, our ever blessed JESUS brought us hither, and gave us a happy meeting with our dear friends. How good is JESUS to the chief of sinners! He solaced my soul all the way, and gave his angels charge concerning us, otherwise we must have been frequently hurt in our ways: but he heard the prayers of his people. I am persuaded he gave them a spirit of supplication in our behalf. I felt it, I feel it now, and long to preach again. My dear friend, remember us in the dearest manner to all. I hope to write to several on *Monday* next. How sweet is rest after fatigue! How sweet will heaven be, when our journey is ended. Forgive the brevity of this.

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXVII.

To Mr. J—— H——, at Bethesda.

London, Nov. 12, 1742.

My dearest Friend and Brother in a crucified JESUS,

HOW do I long to come over to see you, and the rest of my dear family? How do I long to hear how it is with your dear souls, and that you are returned to *Bethesda* in safety! The cloud seems now to be moving toward *America*. I trust I shall be with you in a few months. Wonderful great things did the LORD perform for me and his people in *Scotland*. The concern expressed at my departure, was really unspeakable. O my dear, my very dear brother, the love of GOD to such an unworthy wretch quite amazes me. I rode

poſt, and came here in rather leſs than five days from *Edinburgh* on *Saturday* laſt, and here ſeems to be a new awakening. We have been obliged to enlarge the tabernacle. The LORD's glory does indeed appear in it. Dear brother *H*—— has been ſent with a ſweet ſearching commiſſion. Brother *C*—— is much bleſt in *Wiltſhire*. The word runs and is glorified in *Wales*, and GOD is raiſing ſome freſh witneſſes of the power of his dear Son's blood in *Glouceſterſhire*. Bleſſed are the eyes that ſee the things that we ſee. GOD doth greatly countenance us indeed. O free grace! O electing love! The collections in *Scotland* were large. At *Edinburgh*, I collected 128*l.* at one time, and 44*l.* at another; at *Glaſgow* about 128*l.* with private donations. I think we got about 300*l.* in all. Bleſſed be GOD, I owe nothing now in *England* on the Orphan-houſe account; what is due is abroad. I think ſince I have been in *England*, we have got near 1500*l.* The LORD will raiſe up what we want further; glory be to his name. He keeps my faith from failing, and upholds me with his right hand, and makes me happier in himſelf every day. My wife lies now very weak. She was toſſed for ten days in her voyage from *Scotland:* The ſhip was in imminent danger, but the LORD gave her much of his preſence, and I truſt ſhe will be ready ſhortly for another voyage. She heartily and moſt lovingly greets you all, as does in haſte,

Ever, ever yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXVIII.

To Lady Frances G———.

Honoured Madam, *London Nov.* 13, 1742.

MINDFUL of my promiſe, which I made before I left *Edinburgh*, I now ſteal a few moments to ſend your Ladyſhip a letter of thanks, and which I truſt will find you ſitting under the Redeemer's ſhadow with great delight. It rejoiced me when I heard that our infinitely condeſcending GOD had bleſſed my unworthy miniſtry, to recover your Ladyſhip from a ſtate of darkneſs and ſpiritual deſertion. Glory, glory be to rich, free and ſovereign grace! I truſt your Ladyſhip will now be kept in the love of GOD, and no idol interpoſe between the Redeemer and your ſoul. I hope the

dear Colonel is now in his proper place, and that you can think of him without anxiety or distracting care. This is that freedom, wherewith JESUS CHRIST makes us free. To love all things in him, and for him, and to love him above all. Thus we have peace and joy. Whenever we deviate from it, we fall into darkness and distress of soul. I pray GOD your Ladyship may be thus kept, and enabled to rejoice in GOD all the day long. For ever adored be free grace. I have enjoyed much freedom of soul since I left *Edinburgh*. Very good was my master to us on the road, and still better to me now I am in *London*. We have blessed seasons. O who can express the loving-kindness of the LORD, or show forth all his praise! We beg your prayers; and wishing you and your honoured Colonel all manner of prosperity, I beg leave to subscribe myself, with unfeigned thanks for all past favours, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXIX.

To Miss S———.

London, Nov. 13, 1742.

AS I have been writing to the honourable lady *Frances*, I am willing to inclose a line to you. I trust it will find you walking by faith, and trampling upon the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life. This is the happiness which JESUS CHRIST has purchased for poor sinners. This is that better part, which I hope you have been enabled to choose, and in which, I trust, through grace you will be enabled to persevere even to the end. Dear Miss, if this be the case, well will it be with you, and happy, exceedingly happy shall you be. Methinks I hear you say, "I feel my happiness begun." Keep close, Dear Miss, keep close to the lovely JESUS, and you will find it increase day by day. Many, many temptations and difficulties you will meet with; but fear not; look unto JESUS, and he will make you more than conqueror through his love. Never rest without looking up to him, in and for every thing you stand in need of. He will richly supply all your wants. I speak this by happy

experience. Many bleſſings have I received ſince I came hither. O help me to praiſe our prayer-hearing GOD.

Your moſt affectionate friend and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXX.

To the Honourable Lady Jane H——, in Edinburgh.

Honoured Madam, *London, Nov.* 13, 1742.

IT is with ſome regret, that I look back upon my not writing to you, when I was at *Glaſgow*. I reſolved ever ſince, to ſend your Ladyſhip a line as ſoon as poſſible, after I reached *London*. Being now ſomewhat ſettled, I attempt in the divine ſtrength to put my deſign in execution. And now, honoured Madam, what ſhall I ſay? I hope this will find you a very poor ſinner, and ſitting at JESU's feet. With pleaſure I have often thought your Ladyſhip has been made willing to become truly, inly poor, and to feel the full power of the Redeemer's precious blood. If I miſtake not, your ſoul is athirſt for GOD, yea to be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD. Go on, dear Madam, for GOD ſhall ſatisfy all your deſires: He has promiſed, and he will perform. I find my happineſs in JESUS increaſing daily, and that there is no end of his goodneſs. Greatly did he ſtrengthen me on the road; greatly has he bleſſed me ſince I came hither. I believe your Ladyſhip will hear ſhortly from Mr. *H*——. He is a dear ſoul indeed, and left *London* on *Thurſday* morning laſt, full of ſimplicity and love. The work goes on bravely in *Wales*, and elſewhere. Surely it is the midnight cry; Surely the bridegroom is coming. Methinks I hear your Ladyſhip ſay, "Then I will make ready to go forth to meet him." That you may be always ready to obey the moſt ſudden call, is the hearty prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged
humble ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLXXI.

To Miſs N——'s.

London, Nov. 13, 1742.

Dear young Ladies,

THIS week I wrote a few lines to your honoured mamma. I now ſnatch a few moments to ſend a line to you. And why? Becauſe I love you both in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, and wiſh above all things, that your dear ſouls may proſper. I ſaw a happy alteration in you for the better, whilſt I was at *Edinburgh*, and my conſtant prayer is, that you might ſtill go on from ſtrength to ſtrength. Here ſeems to be a new awakening. We had a glorious faſt-day indeed. I truſt you had the ſame at *Edinburgh*. I am ſure we prayed heartily, it might be ſo. O *Edinburgh! Edinburgh!* I think I ſhall never forget thee. Surely many can ſay, "Our fellowſhip has "been with the Father and with the Son." And now though abſent, we may have fellowſhip together in and through the eternal Spirit. Thus it is with me, and thus it is, I believe, with my dear wife. She moſt heartily joins with me in ſaluting your moſt honoured mamma, as well as yourſelves. Wiſhing that your lamps may be always trimmed, and your loins always girded, and that you may be continually in readineſs to meet the heavenly bridegroom; I ſubſcribe myſelf, dear young ladies,

Your moſt affectionate friend and ſervant in JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXII.

To ——.

London, Nov. 15, 1742.

My Lord,

IT has given me ſome concern, that I could not write to your Lordſhip before I left *E*——. My departure from thence was very ſudden, and it was but a few days before that I heard of your Lordſhip's illneſs. However, I have not been unmindful of your Lordſhip, and I truſt, in anſwer to prayer, our LORD has rebuked your fever, and that this will find you riſen and miniſtring unto him. O, my Lord, I think I can

ſay, " It is good for me that I have been afflicted;" for had it not been ſo, I ſhould have gone aſtray. How apt are we when in health, to follow JESUS afar off, and ſink into tepidity and a laodicean ſpirit? May this ſickneſs be ſanctified to the purging of your Lordſhip's ſoul, and be a means of drawing you nearer to GOD! Our glorious High-prieſt ſtill continues to load me with his benefits. He dealt moſt tenderly with me on the road, and bleſſes me much here. I am now in my winter quarters, preparing for a freſh campaign. Happy they that fight under the Redeemer's banner! That your Lordſhip may be always fighting the good fight of faith, and at length lay hold on eternal life, is the earneſt prayer of, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient and obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXIII.

To Mr. S——, of Briſtol.

London, Nov. 15, 1742.

My dear Brother S——,

I Gave thanks on your behalf, when I read your letters; being encouraged thereby to hope, that JESUS CHRIST is indeed about to take full poſſeſſion of your ſoul. A proper ſeaſon this to enter into the marriage ſtate, an union repreſenting the myſtical union between JESUS CHRIST and his Church. My brother, you cannot think of it with too much ſolemnity. It is a matter of great importance, in which the future comfort of your life much depends. I would adviſe you to read over the matrimonial office, and turn it into a prayer. As for outward affairs, I think it quite proper to have them ſettled, as I am a miniſter of JESUS CHRIST, and ought therefore to be freed as much as may be from all worldly incumbrances. Be pleaſed to draw out your account, and when the captain comes, deſire him to draw out his, that receipts may paſs on both ſides. I ſhall pay Mr. *N*—— as deſired. I am glad you are ſo friendly with Mr. *W*——. I truſt we ſhall learn more and more to love one another.

Yours moſt affectionately in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLXXIV.

To the Bishop of Bangor.

London, Nov. 17, 1742.

My Lord,

THE inclosed was sent by a young man, who was coming up to *London*, and was in his way as far as *Ludlow*, on purpose to wait on your Lordship about the contents of it. If your Lordship pleases, I will wait upon your Lordship for your Lordship's answer. The character your Lordship has for candour and moderation, makes me believe, your Lordship will not favour any persecuting proceedings against those that love the LORD JESUS in sincerity. If your Lordship thinks proper to speak with me, upon the least intimation, you shall be attended by, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient son and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXV.

To Mr. J——, of Toven in Wales.

London, Nov. 18, 1742.

My dear Brother,

HOW sweetly does the blessed JESUS guide the meek in his way! I believe your turning back from *Ludlow* was of GOD. Dear brother *H*—— was about that time going into *Wales*, and the LORD sending me hither (unworthy as I am) to transact affairs for you. I have seen your letter to Mr. *L*——, and likewise that from brother *C*——, to the bishop of *Bangor*. I am just now sending it to him, with a letter from myself, desiring leave to wait upon his Lordship. What the event will be, our LORD only knows. This, however, we know, "All things shall work together for good to those that love GOD;" and the gates of hell shall never prevail against the church of JESUS CHRIST. What you have met with, is no more than might be expected long ago. There has been a hook in the Leviathan's jaws, or otherwise our mouths had been stopped long before this time. I had once the honour of being publickly arraigned, for not reading the Common Prayer in a Meeting-house. At another time, I was taken up by a warrant

warrant for correcting a letter wherein were these words, "Shall our Clergy break the Canons." The prosecutions were unjust, but there is our glory. I remember when *Socrates* was about to suffer, his friends grieved, that he suffered unjustly. What, says he, would you have me suffer justly? If we are buffetted for our faults, and take it patiently, says a greater than *Socrates*, we are not to glory; "but if we are reproached for CHRIST, and suffer as Christians, happy are we." I think our present sufferings are for him. Surely the spirit of CHRIST and of glory will rest upon you. However, I trust this storm will soon blow over. If possible, let an open separation from the church be avoided. Mr. *H*—— can tell you more by word of mouth. I trust the glorious JESUS has sent him amongst you, in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of peace. He is a dear soul. I am persuaded you are dear to him: I find you are dear to me, though I never saw you. It is enough, that we have drank into one spirit. This creates an indissoluble union. Pray remember my kind love to dear brother *C*——. I wish him joy with all my heart; but would not have him deny that exhorting is preaching. The Chancellor will be too many for him; for to be sure, exhorting is at least one part of preaching. Granting this, he has warrant enough, notwithstanding, from scripture, to tell others what GOD has done for his soul, and to bid them come and see and believe in a precious CHRIST. O that word! How sweet is it to my soul? It is like ointment poured forth. Had I time, I could tell you much of his love. He has been exceeding good to me in *Scotland:* He is still so to me here. Vile, base, ungrateful as I am, he lets me lean on his bosom night and day. My dear brother, help me to praise him, and engage all the brethren's prayers in behalf of one, less than the least of all saints, but

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLXXVI.

To the Reverend Dr. C———, in Boſton.

London, Nov. 18, 1742.

Rev. and dear Sir,

GLAD was I to receive another letter from you, before I ſent off my packets. I thank our loving LORD, for granting me the continuance of his miniſters affections. I hope this, and all his other mercies, will lead me nearer and nearer to himſelf the fountain of all mercies. Surely the friends of JESUS pray in my behalf; for I am ſtill ſtrengthened more than ever, and enabled to rejoice in his goodneſs all the day long. The confuſion at *New-England* has given me concern; but our LORD will over-rule all for good. I was ſorry to hear of Mr. *D*———'s impriſonment; and to be impriſoned for an unguarded expreſſion, I think is too, too ſevere, and not for the honour of *Boſton* at all. Had I been in his place, I ſhould have accepted bail. When I ſhall come to *Boſton*, the LORD JESUS only knows. I believe it will not be long. I find I ſhall come in perilous times; but that all-gracious Saviour, who has helped me hitherto, will guide me by his council, and give me a true ſcriptural zeal. This is what I deſire all my friends to beg in my behalf. How hard is it to keep in the true narrow path, when ſpeaking for the LORD JESUS? GOD preſerve me, and all his miniſters, from defending his truths and cauſe in our own, or under the influence of a falſe ſpirit! It deſtroys the very cauſe we would defend. As yet, in *Scotland* there have been but few of the diſorders complained of amongſt you. But as the work increaſes, I ſuppoſe the enemies ſtratagems will increaſe alſo. This is my comfort, JESUS reigns. The gates of hell ſhall never be able to prevail againſt his church. I have had a late inſtance of his power and goodneſs, in driving the *Spaniards* out of *Georgia*. I hear they are gone. I hope the Orphans are now at *Bethesda* in peace. The continuation of my account, I have ſent with this, and a parcel of my ſermons. Be pleaſed to diſpoſe of them, as you ſhall think proper. I ſalute all my Reverend brethren that preach JESUS CHRIST in ſincerity. I wiſh them proſperity with all my heart, and pray for them every day. Reverend Sir, my

ſoul

ſoul is now filled with a ſenſe of redeeming love. O why me, LORD, why me? Even ſo my Saviour, for ſo it ſeemed good in thy ſight! But I can write no more, having much buſineſs on my hands. We go on well here. Our LORD bleſſes us much. I am, with much affection, Rev. Sir,

Your moſt unworthy and younger brother
in the goſpel of JESUS CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXVII.

To Mr. J—— E——.

London, Nov. 18, 1742.

Dear Sir,

YOUR letter pleaſed me much. As ſoon as I read it, I kneeled down, prayed, and gave thanks on your behalf. How faithful is he that hath ſaid, "I will never leave thee, or forſake thee." Surely the LORD intends to honour you, in making you an inſtrument in bringing many ſons to glory. I hope he will bleſs your firſt public eſſays to ſerve the intereſt of his great name, and enable you to go on from ſtrength to ſtrength. I cannot think you will be long without a feeling poſſeſſion of your GOD. Shortly, I truſt, you will be touched with a coal from the heavenly altar, and be made to ſay, "LORD ſend me." I think our Saviour has given you great knowledge in the ſcriptures. May you be kept cloſe to and be daily taught of him. My prayer for you is,

Take his poor heart, and let it be
For ever clos'd to all but thee.

I think you may ſtudy conveniently in *Scotland*; but in this and every thing elſe, I pray the LORD JESUS to direct and guide your ſoul. I moſt heartily love you, and wiſh you proſperity in the name of the LORD. Our bleſſed Saviour has been exceeding kind, ſince I have been here. I go on my way rejoicing, and am ſtrengthened day by day. That you may abundantly experience the ſame, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLXXVIII.

To Mr. M——, Isle of Man.

London, Nov. 19, 1742.

Rev. and dear Sir,

I Am concerned to find by your last, dated *November* 4th, that the letter I sent you from *Scotland* did not come to hand. But providence over-ruleth all things; even this shall work for good. I wonder not, if the LORD has given you more zeal, that you meet with more opposition. However, I would not have you rash, or over hasty in leaving the *Isle of Man*. Wait, continue instant in prayer, and you shall see the salvation of GOD. I have not heard from my family abroad for some time, and cannot give you any determinate answer about your going to *Georgia*, because I know not how their affairs stand. GOD will yet shew you what he would have you to do. Even so LORD JESUS, Amen and Amen! Our glorious *Emmanuel* blessed me exceedingly after we parted from *Scotland*, and blesses me in like manner, now he has brought me to *England*. Vile, ungrateful as I am, he vouchsafes to give me much of his presence, and keeps me under the shadow of his wings. Let his goodness to me, encourage you to hope and trust in him. Remember, dear Sir, JESUS came to make poor sinners happy, and to give them victory over their lusts and passions. Plead his promises, be much in secret prayer, and never give GOD rest, 'till your soul is filled with all his fulness. That the LORD may hasten that blessed time, wherein his kingdom shall come with full power into your dear soul, is the earnest prayer of, Rev. and dear Sir,

Your most affectionate friend, brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXIX.

To Mr. B——, at Bethesda.

London, Nov. 19, 1742.

BLESSED, blessed be GOD, the packet is not gone; so that I have just time to tell you, I received your kind, very kind letter, though I have not time to read it thoroughly, least I should miss this opportunity. GOD only knows

knows how I ſympathize with you and my dear family. Though I have no money to pay Mr. *Jones*, &c. yet, if I can take up two or three hundred pounds upon my own account, I will come over, GOD willing, the very firſt opportunity. The time of your faſting, I hope is now near over, and the days of your mourning ended. Remember the burning buſh; it was on fire, but not conſumed. Surely ſome great good is to come out of the Orphan-houſe. Bleſſed be GOD, for ſtrengthening you to ſtay with my dear family. Ten thouſand bleſſings deſcend upon your ſoul! I wiſh dear brother *G*—— joy. I am much obliged to my dear friend and faithful ſteward. Next ſhip, I hope to anſwer his letters diſtinctly. O my dear man, I do not forget any of you. GOD, and not my own will, has kept me on this ſide the water ſo long. But ſurely you muſt judge me ſometimes. You need not make any apology for moving; it is what I wiſhed you might do. Your care and tenderneſs towards me, makes me long to embrace and weep over you one by one. Forget you! no, no; I think I could rather die for you. My brother, my dear brother, go on. Surely GOD is with us. Great things are to come out of *Georgia*. Remember *Abraham*, how did he ſojourn in the land of Promiſe, as in a ſtrange land? The LORD increaſe your faith. My tendereſt love, and ten thouſand thanks, to dear Mr. *J*——*s*. GOD will bleſs him for helping you. The LORD JESUS be with you all.

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXX.

To the Biſhop of Bangor.

My Lord, *London, Nov.* 19, 1742.

THIS evening I received your Lordſhip's kind letter. I humbly thank your Lordſhip for it. It confirmed me in the character given me of your Lordſhip's ſpirit. I verily believe your Lordſhip abhors every thing that has a tendency to perſecution, and yet, in my humble opinion, if Mr. *C*—— is not ſomewhat redreſſed, he is perſecuted indeed. That your Lordſhip may know his ſpirit, and the ſpirit of the perſon who came as far as *Ludlow* on the buſineſs, I have ſent your

your Lordſhip a letter from each, which was written ſome time ago to Mr. *H*—— *H*———. In them your Lordſhip will ſee their whole hearts. I verily believe they would rather die than wilfully ſpeak or write a falſhood. My Lord, the whole of the matter ſeems to be this: In *Wales* they have little fellowſhip meetings, where ſome well-meaning people meet together, ſimply to tell what GOD has done for their ſouls. In ſome of theſe meetings, I believe Mr. *C*——— uſed to tell his experience, and to invite his companions to come and be happy in JESUS CHRIST. He is therefore indicted as holding a conventicle; and this I find is the caſe of one, if not two more. Now, my Lord, theſe perſons thus indicted, as far as I can judge, are loyal ſubjects to his Majeſty, and true friends to, and attendants upon the Church of *England* ſervice. You will ſee by theſe letters, how unwilling they are to leave her; and yet, if all thoſe acts, which were made againſt perſons meeting together to plot againſt Church and State, were put in execution againſt them, what muſt they do? They muſt be obliged to declare themſelves Diſſenters. I aſſure your Lordſhip, it is a critical time in *Wales*. Hundreds, if not thouſands, will go in a body from the Church, if ſuch proceedings are countenanced. I lately wrote them a letter, diſſuading them from ſeparating from the Church, and I write thus freely to your Lordſhip, becauſe of the excellent ſpirit of moderation diſcernible in your Lordſhip, and becauſe I would not have (to uſe your Lordſhip's own expreſſion) "ſuch a fire kindled in, or from your (Lordſhip's) dioceſe." I would beg the favour of your Lordſhip to return me the incloſed, becauſe I have not kept copies. I ſend them to your Lordſhip juſt as they are, that your Lordſhip may ſee the whole affair, and cenſure what is exceptionable. I really believe the writers will thank your Lordſhip for it. I aſk pardon for taking up ſo much of your Lordſhip's time, but I thought your Lordſhip would deſire to have all poſſible information, that you might be better capable of judging. I pray the great Shepherd and Biſhop of ſouls to direct your Lordſhip in this, and every other affair that comes before you, and that you may be ſaluted at the great day with an *Euge bone*, is the hearty and fervent prayer of, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient ſon and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLXXXI.

To Mr. C——.

London, Nov. 20, 1742.

My dear Brother C——,

I Catch a few moments to give you an account of my agency. Your letter I ſent to the Biſhop of *Bangor*, incloſed in one from myſelf. His anſwer you have tranſcribed in this. That he might not be impoſed upon by the Chancellor's repreſenting of things, I laſt night ſent his Lordſhip another long letter, with that which you wrote to dear brother *H*—— ſome time ago. As the Biſhop ſeems to be a man of a moderate ſpirit, I truſt this ſtorm will blow over. In the mean while, let us wait upon the LORD, commit the cauſe into his hands who judgeth righteouſly, and pray, that we may be "as wiſe as ſerpents, and harmleſs as doves." Glad ſhall I be to ſerve you, my dear brother, in this, or any other affair, for advancing our glorious Mediator's kingdom. Let this be our comfort, the gates of hell ſhall never be able to prevail againſt it. Let us go on then, and never fear what men or devils can ſay of, or do unto us. I ſuppoſe this is the language of your heart,

The love of CHRIST *doth me conſtrain*
To ſeek the wand'ring ſouls of men:
All hail reproach, and welcome pain,
Only thy terrors, LORD, *reſtrain.*

And if ſo, ſurely the ſpirit of CHRIST and of glory will reſt upon you. Our dear brother *C*—— is ſadly uſed in *Wiltſhire*. The compaſſionate Redeemer of ſouls pities my weakneſs, and ſuffers very little diſturbance to be made. We have ſweet times, and, vile as I am, JESUS is pleaſed to keep me near him. I hope this will find your dear ſoul ſitting under his ſhadow with great delight. I know you not in the fleſh, but hope to ſee you before I embark. Letters call me loudly to *Georgia*. My dear family are returned to their *Betheſda* in ſafety. O help me, my dear brother, to praiſe the LORD. Salute all the brethren in behalf of

Yours moſt affectionately, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLXXXII.

To Mr. V——, Secretary to the Truſtees of Georgia.

Dear Sir, *London, Nov.* 20, 1742.

GOD willing, I intend waiting upon the honourable Truſtees at the time appointed. Yeſterday I received a packet of letters from my friends at the Orphan-houſe. I find they are returned in ſafety to *Bethesda*, and give a noble account of the General's conduct. Bleſſed be GOD, for enabling him to repel the enemy; but now another diſtreſs is come upon poor *Georgia*. A violent ſickneſs rages and has taken off many. My letters ſay, the Orphan-houſe ſurgeon had 50 under his hands. This, I truſt, will more and more convince the Honourable Truſtees, of the benefit the Orphan-houſe is and will be to the Colony. I hear, that Mr. *O*——, the miniſter of *Savannah*, is dead. I know one Mr. *M*——, a clergyman in the *Iſle of Man*, who would go over and ſupply his place, if he was applied to. The Biſhop of *Sodor and Man* I believe will give him a recommendation. You may acquaint the Honourable Truſtees with this, and let me know their anſwer. I hope in about two months to embark for *Georgia*. I find GOD has given my family a good crop; but the hands are ſick, ſo they cannot ſpeedily carry it in. What condition the Orphan-houſe was in lately, the incloſed will ſhew. Be pleaſed to let the Honourable Truſtees have a ſight of it, and believe me to be, dear Sir,

Your obliged friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXXIII.

To Mr. C——.

London, Nov. 20, 1742.

My very dear Brother,

THE firſt part of your letter did not ſurprize me at all, though it made me look up to the LORD for you. I believed you would be down in the valley of humiliation ſoon; but fear not, it is only that you may be exalted the more. I truſt, this will find you mounting on wings like an eagle, walking, yet not weary; running, yet not faint. GOD has,

does, and will remarkably appear for you. Doubtleſs, you are his ſervant and miniſter. He therefore that touches you, touches the apple of GOD's eye. Poor *Wiltſhire* people! I pity them. If I knew their Biſhop, I would apply to him on their behalf. I wrote to the Biſhop of *Bangor* for our brethren in *Wales*, and have received a very favourable anſwer. The wrath of man ſhall turn to GOD's praiſe, and the remainder of it he will reſtrain. How wonderfully has he appeared in all ages for his church and people! My dear family abroad has been marvellouſly preſerved. Bleſſed be GOD, they are returned to *Betheſda* in peace. We have ſweet ſeaſons daily, and I am carried in the arms of love. My Maſter careth for me, and ſeems to order my goings in his way. O help me to praiſe him. I think you are never forgotten by, my dear *C*——,

Your moſt affectionate brother and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXXIV.

To Mr. J—— E——.

Dear Sir, *London, Nov.* 23, 1742.

HOW gently does the LORD deal with his followers? "As a father pitieth his own children, ſo is the LORD merciful to them that fear him." Now your father is a little uneaſy, your grandfather is more favourable. The LORD will never ſuffer you to be tempted above what you will be enabled to bear. He will make a way for you to eſcape. I am glad you have determined to ſtudy at *E*———. Two things, I would earneſtly recommend to your conſtant ſtudy, the *book of* GOD, and *your own heart.* Theſe two, well underſtood, will make you an able miniſter of the New Teſtament. In what manner you ſhall be hereafter employed, I would have you be indifferent about. "Take no thought for the morrow." Let the LORD ſend you, when and where he will ſend you. In the mean while, do as much for GOD in a private way as you can. "Exerciſe thyſelf unto godlineſs," and walk ſo humbly, that all may know our LORD has choſen you to be a goſpel prophet. I rejoice, that the work is ſtill going on. Bleſſed be GOD,

we

we have good times here. I am kept in great liberty. Be pleased to desire all to accept of hearty love from, dear Sir,

Your most affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXXV.

To the Earl of ——.

My Lord, *London, Nov.* 23, 1742.

SINCE I wrote to your Lordship, I have received a comfortable packet of letters from *Georgia*, giving me an account of my family's safe return to their *Bethesda*. The deliverance of *Georgia* from the *Spaniards*, one of my friends writes me, is such as cannot be parralleled, but by some few instances out of the Old Testament. I find that the *Spaniards* had cast lots, and determined to give no quarter. They intended to attack *Carolina*, but wanting water they put into *Georgia*, and so would take that Colony in their way. But "the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong." Providence ruleth all things. They were wonderfully repelled and sent away, before our ships were seen. Surely GOD remembered the prayers of the poor orphans, and the earnest cries which have been put up on their behalf. I find they now live at a smaller expence. They hunt and shoot for a good part of their food. Their crop gives them a considerable quantity of peas, potatoes, &c. and they kill some of their own stock. There has been a great sickness at *Savannah*. Some of the labourers have been taken off, but none of the children, as I hear, have died as yet. I hope this will find your Lordship perfectly recovered, and your honoured consort, Lady ——, and all your Lordship's family, rejoicing in GOD. He is pleased to give me much of his love, and to bless me every day. Several of our friends in *Wales* have been unjustly excommunicated. I have sent two letters, and have received kind answers from the Bishop of *Bangor*. Perilous times, perhaps, are coming on; but this is my comfort, "the gates of hell shall never prevail against the church of CHRIST." Hoping for a line from your Lordship, if it be not too much trouble, I subscribe myself, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXXVI.

To Miſs W——.

London, November 23, 1742.

My dear Miſs W——,

YOUR letter affected me much, and if it had not been for buſineſs, I ſhould have anſwered it ere now. It is the hardeſt thing in the world to keep the creature in his proper place. We are apt to eſteem the miniſters of JESUS either too much or too little. One while, we could pluck out our eyes to give them; at another time, run into a contrary extreme, and not pay them that reſpect which is their due for their Maſter's ſake. The love that a child of GOD feels for its ſpiritual father, is certainly unſpeakable. O how can I but love him, who under GOD has brought me from darkneſs into light! Methinks I hear dear Miſs *W*—— ſay, "how indeed!" But here is danger, leſt the affections ſhould be too much entangled, and we unwilling to give up the beloved object to our GOD. This, I ſuppoſe, is dear Miſs *W*——'s caſe, and I can ſay,

I know how ſore this trial is,
For I have felt the ſame.

O what have I ſuffered in parting from ſpiritual friends, eſpecially ſuch as were my *Iſaac*'s! But CHRIST's grace has been ſufficient for me, and ſo it will be for you. I have prayed for you, and hope by this time dear Miſs *W*—— can ſay, my ſpiritual Father keeps his proper place, and I walk in liberty and the love of GOD. Indeed, my dear Miſs, no one but the ſcarcher of hearts knows, what a real concern I have for your eternal welfare. I verily believe I ſhall ſee you ſitting at the right hand of your Redeemer. Surely he has captivated and ſtolen your heart away. I hope nothing will divert you from him; but with a ſingle eye to his glory, you will go through good report and evil report, 'till you come to the bleſſed place, where the wicked will ceaſe from troubling, and your weary ſoul enjoy an everlaſting reſt. Glad ſhall I be to hear from you every opportunity. Ere long I muſt away. Pray our Saviour to help me under all my difficulties,

but at the same time help me to praise him: for amidst all my various circumstances, I am kept joying in GOD, and made more than conqueror through his love. We have had blessed times since my arrival here.

Your most affectionate friend and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXXVII.

To the Bishop of Bangor.

My Lord, *London, Nov.* 23, 1742.

I Humbly thank your Lordship for your Lordship's second kind letter. Your Lordship shall have Mr. *C*——'s letter whenever your Lordship pleases to demand it. I sent it for no other purpose, than to let your Lordship into the affair as far as lay in my power. I am quite willing your Lordship should hear both sides. I doubt not but your Lordship will do justice. The candour and moderation which breathe in your Lordship's letters, and your condescension in writing to me, incline me to take the freedom of begging your Lordship's acceptance of my last volume of sermons, and the Orphan-house accounts, from, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obliged,
obedient son and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCLXXXVIII.

To Professor Frank, in Germany.

Rev. Sir, *London, Nov.* 24, 1742.

LONG have I designed writing to you, but something or another has always prevented me. However, I can now defer it no longer. For though I never saw you in the flesh, yet I love and highly esteem you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, and wish you much prosperity in the work of the LORD. Your honoured father's memory is very precious to me. His account of the Orphan-house hath, under GOD, been a great support and encouragement to me in a like undertaking. How it prospers, the account sent with this will inform you. Only it will be proper to observe, that since the publication of the last, there have been upwards of 300 *l.* col-

lected. I am yet about 400*l.* in arrears. But I know in whom I have believed, for the carrying on of that building. Hitherto it has answered its motto, and has been like the burning bush on fire, but not consumed. The Colony's late deliverance from the *Spaniards* was very extraordinary. I cannot but think the LORD intends yet to do great things for *Georgia*. How is it with the *Saltzburghers?* I have not heard. Sometime ago I sent them over twenty pounds, and wish it was in my power to send them more. About *January*, GOD willing, I intend to embark. In the mean while, I should be glad to know, Rev. Sir, how it is with your Orphan-house? and whether you have any commands to *Georgia?* I suppose you have heard of the work of GOD in *Scotland*. Indeed the word has run and been glorified, and JESUS has gotten himself the victory in many hearts. In *England* also he is pleased to bless us. Here are many close followers of the blessed Lamb of GOD, and though there is a difference of opinion between me and Mr. *W*——, yet JESUS pities us and blesses us all. I long for that time, "when the watchmen shall all see eye to eye; when the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the lion eat straw like the ox, and the people of GOD learn war and jangle no more." Hasten that time, O glorious *Emmanuel*, and let thy kingdom come! — Rev. Sir, whilst I am writing, the fire of love kindles in my heart. I am amazed, to think the blessed JESUS should employ such an unworthy wretch as I am. But thy grace is free, for, O my GOD, it found me out. The love you bear to the lovely JESUS, I am persuaded will excite you to pray for me. Glad should I be of a line from you, and the Rev. Mr. *Ulspurgher*; but I deserve no regard for not writing to you both. But you know how to forgive, for GOD for CHRIST's sake hath forgiven you. Hoping therefore for a line from you by the hands of the Rev. Mr. Z——, I subscribe myself, Reverend and dear Sir,

Your most obliged, affectionate, tho' unworthy younger brother and servant in the kingdom and patience of the blessed JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCLXXXIX.

To Mr. P——, of Newbury.

London, Nov. 27, 1742.

Rev. and dear Sir,

THIS morning I received your sweet and lovely letter. It humbled me before GOD; but I rejoiced, as I had long since publickly recanted all that is exceptionable in that extract. I think I was overseen in publishing it; but this is not the first blunder I have made. My mistakes have been so many, and my imprudence so great, that I have often wondered that the glorious JESUS would employ me in his service. But he has proved his eternal goodness, long-suffering, and love, by bearing with me, and, Rev. and dear Sir, he still delights to honour me. Since I have been in *London*, he has given me great freedom of soul, and caused his word to come with power. I have news of my family being safe at *Georgia*. GOD willing, I purpose to embark next *January*. I most heartily thank you for this last instance of your love, and pray our dear JESUS to reward you for it. Your seeing what a poor, weak, fallible creature I am, I trust will stir you up to be more earnest for me at the throne of grace. Next week I intend sending you a parcel, wherein you will have more particular accounts of the work in *Scotland*. I hear the gospel flourishes in *Gloucestershire* and *Wales*. Dear Mr. *C*—— will be sadly missed. But he is in peace, and the residue of the spirit is in the Redeemer's hands. That you and your dear flock and family may experience a large effusion of it in your dear souls, is and shall be the earnest prayer of, dear and Rev. Sir,

Your most affectionate, tho' most unworthy brother and servant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXC.

To the Bishop of Sarum.

My Lord, *Nov.* 30, 1742.

I BEG your Lordship's pardon for troubling you with this. I believe your Lordship will not be offended, when you know the cause. There is one Mr. *C*——, a true lover of JESUS

CHRIST, who has been much honoured in bringing many poor ſinners in *Wiltſhire* to the knowledge of themſelves and of GOD. He is a member of the Church of *England*, but ſadly oppoſed by the clergy in *Wiltſhire*, as well as by many that will come to hear him preach. In a letter, dated *November* 16th, from *Toxham*, he writes thus: "The enemy ſeems to be more awakened in the villages round about us, than before. The miniſters of *Bramble*, *Segery*, *Langley*, and many others, have ſtrictly forbidden the church-wardens and overſeers to let any of the *C*——'s have any thing out of the pariſh; and they obey them, and tell the poor, if they cannot ſtop them from following any other way, they will famiſh them. Several of the poor, who have great families (to my own knowledge) have already been denied any help, for this reaſon, becauſe they follow this way. Some of the people have, out of fear, denied they ever came, and others have been made to promiſe they will come no more; whilſt the moſt part come at the loſs of friends and all they have. When the officers threatned ſome to take away their pay; they anſwered, if you ſtarve us, we will go, and rather than we will forbear, we will live upon graſs like the kine. Surely the cries of the diſtreſſed people have already entered into the ears of the LORD of *Sabaoth*." In another letter I received from him laſt night, he writes thus: "I ſhould be glad if you could mention the cruelty of the miniſters of *Bramble*, and *Segery*, to the Biſhop of *Sarum*; indeed, their doings are inhuman. The cry of the people, becauſe of their oppreſſion, is very great; ſeveral ſuffer amazingly."—In compliance with my dear friend's requeſt, I preſume to lay the matter, as he repreſents it, before your Lordſhip, being perſuaded that your Lordſhip will not favour perſecuting practices, or approve of ſuch proceedings to keep people to the Church of *England*. Should this young man leave the Church, hundreds would leave it with him. But I know that at preſent he has no ſuch deſign. If your Lordſhip pleaſes to give me leave, I would wait upon your Lordſhip upon the leaſt notice. Or if your Lordſhip is pleaſed to ſend a line into *Wiltſhire*, to know the truth of the matter, and judge accordingly, it will ſatisfy, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient ſon and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXCI.

To Mr. J——.

London, Dec. 4, 1742.

IF my dear brother *J*—— took it kind, that I called at his houſe, I am ſure I took it much kinder that he was pleaſed to ſend unworthy me ſo kind a letter. It has ſo affected me, that I have been praying before my Saviour for you; and though nature calls for reſt, I cannot obey it, before I have written to my dear Mr. *J*——. Vile, unfaithful as I am, my Maſter lets me have my hands full of work. From morning 'till midnight I am employed, and, glory be to rich grace, I am carried through the duties of each day with chearfulneſs, and almoſt uninterrupted tranquility. Our ſociety is large, but in good order, and we make improvements daily. My Maſter gives us much of his gracious preſence, both in our public and private adminiſtrations. In our love-feaſts, JESUS comes and ſays, "Peace be unto you." In our great congregation, he gives poor ſinners to look, and mourn, and live. In *Scotland* the work was very extraordinary. In *Wales* the word runs and is glorified much. In *Glouceſterſhire*, *Wiltſhire*, and *Briſtol*, our LORD gets himſelf the victory in many hearts. In *Newcaſtle*, our brother *W*——'s are bleſſed much, and I heartily rejoice to hear that our dear Saviour is ſo much among you. If I know any thing of this my deſperately wicked heart, I am dead to parties, and freed from the pain, which on that account once diſturbed the peace of my ſoul. Indeed, JESUS has taken many things from me, and made me to experience, that in him there is plenteous redemption. About *January*, I purpoſe, GOD willing, to embark for *Georgia*. My dear family hath been wonderfully preſerved. As the Orphan-houſe was built by faith, I truſt the gates of hell ſhall never prevail againſt it. Methinks I hear my dear Mr. *J*—— ſay, Amen. I moſt cordially ſalute your dear Lady, dear brother *S*——, and all the brethren. I ſaw our dear *S*—— before he went. I intended having ſome ſweet fellowſhip with the church in *Yorkſhire*, but was prevented by riding poſt. If dear brother *H*——, or *D*——, or any of the brethren, have any thing to ſay to a poor ſinner, I ſhould be glad to hear from

from them. Let this provoke you, my dear brother, to send me another letter. I'll redeem time from sleep, rather than it should not be answered by, my dear Mr. *J*——,

Your most affectionate, though unworthy, sinful and younger brother in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXCII.

To the Bishop of Bristol.

My Lord, *London, Dec.* 5, 1742.

AS your Lordship was pleased to contribute towards the Orphan-house in *Georgia*, I think your Lordship has a right to hear how that undertaking succeeds. I have made bold to send your Lordship the accounts of it, which are published. Since the last was printed, I have collected about 300*l.* and have heard that my family are all safe at the Orphan-house. I have also taken the freedom of sending your Lordship my last volume of sermons; in accepting of which, your Lordship will much oblige

Your Lordship's most obedient son and servant,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXCIII.

To Mr. S——, at Worcester.

London, Dec. 9, 1742.

Rev. and dear Sir,

HOWEVER engaged I may be, I think it my duty to answer your kind letter as soon as possible. It is not fit that my Master's aged servant should wait long for an answer from a younger brother, especially as I know you write with so much difficulty. I thank you, Rev. Sir, for your plain dealing. It is what pleaseth me well. Indeed, I feel myself a poor, vile, worthless creature, and am glad to receive advice from you, who have been so long in the Redeemer's service. However ungrateful it may be to the old man, the language of my heart is, "LORD, search me and try me, and whatever secret wickedness lurks in my soul, discover it to me, and give me "power over it, that nothing may divert me from that way, "which leads me to life everlasting." Your advice, Rev. Sir,

Sir, in reſpect to preaching, was ſalutary and good, and if I may ſpeak any thing of myſelf, is what I keep cloſe to. I am remarked for my evangelical preaching, and comforting the mourners of *Zion*. I am never ſo much in my element, as when I preach free grace to the chief of ſinners. As to the gentleman you mention, I do not remember I ever converſed with ſuch a perſon. I believe there can ſcarce an inſtance be given of any one ſent to *Bedlam* by my ſermons. But I rejoice in this, and all other calumnies that are caſt upon me.

All hail reproach, and welcome pain,
Only thy terrors, LORD, *reſtrain.*

I muſt have ſome thorn in the fleſh, to ſerve as a poiſe to the great honour my Maſter is pleaſed to put upon me. In *Scotland*, my reception was extraordinary. It was almoſt wholly amongſt the people and clergy of the *kirk*, with many of the higheſt rank. I was very intimate with ſeveral perſons of quality, who I truſt have been awakened to a true ſenſe of the divine life, and enabled to count all things but dung and droſs for the excellency of the knowledge of CHRIST JESUS their LORD. My chief oppoſition was from the dear Mr. *E——s* and the aſſociate preſbytery. They firſt invited me to *Scotland*; but finding I would preach for the miniſters of the eſtabliſhed church, as well as for them, they ſpoke all manner of evil againſt me falſly, and imputed all the work in *Scotland* and *New-England* to the agency of the evil ſpirit. I pitied, prayed for, and loved them, and do ſo ſtill. O, reverend Sir, what thanks ſhall I give to my LORD for carrying me through ſo many trying diſpenſations? I know you will help me to adore and praiſe him. I am much bleſſed here. We have many gracious ſouls. Ere long I muſt leave them. I have not the leaſt thought of ſeeing *Worceſter*. Glad ſhall I be to kiſs your aged hands; but I ſhall ſee you in glory. Begging the continuance of your prayers, and with all poſſible thanks for all favours, I ſubſcribe myſelf, reverend and dear Sir,

Your moſt obliged and affectionate friend and younger brother and ſervant in JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXCIV.

To Mr. D——, of Edinburgh.

London, Dec. 18, 1742.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

LAST night, juſt before your kind letter came to hand, I had been lying on my face before our compaſſionate High-Prieſt, telling him what great expences lay before me for his great Name ſake. I wanted 300*l.* to pay for the Orphans, and much to pay for my own neceſſary expences, which he, by his providence, brought upon me. Your letter came as an anſwer to my prayer. It humbled, at the ſame time that it elated my ſoul, and greatly ſtrengthened my faith. Surely the LORD is on my ſide, and the Orphan-houſe will ſtand unconſumed in fire. The enemies, and even many friends of JESUS ſpeak againſt it; but this is all to bring me nearer to the bleſſed JESUS, and to convince me that our extremity is GOD's opportunity. My dear man, GOD will abundantly bleſs you for helping me at this juncture. I can find but few, who think it a favour to do any thing for GOD, and love to help a friend to the very laſt. O, dear Sir, was you here, I could weep over you, and thank you moſt heartily. Laſt night I was enabled to intercede for you very much. GOD will hear my prayer, and not let my dear friend loſe his reward. The 16th of this month was my birth-day. It made me bluſh to think how much ſin I have committed againſt, and how little good I have done for GOD. As ſoon as I opened and read your letter, amazed, I cried out, I am the vileſt wretch living, and ſo I think now. I know you will pray for me, and thank our Saviour too. He is very kind to me. Our ſociety goes on well. I am now in my winter-quarters, preparing for a freſh campaign. Though I richly deſerve it, yet our infinitely condeſcending JESUS will not lay me aſide, until he has performed all his good pleaſure in and by me. Wiſhing you, my dear Sir, all the bleſſings of the everlaſting covenant, and ſending you ten thouſand thanks for all favours, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Your moſt obliged affectionate friend, brother, and unworthy ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXCV.

To Mr I——.

London, Dec. 21, 1742.

My very dear Brother,

WHEN your letters come, I find great freedom to send immediate answers. A proof this, I trust, that our Saviour intends our brotherly love not only to continue, but increase. This day I dined with old Mr. *F——*, and was kindly entertained by him and his wife. I then remembered what sweet counsel we had there taken together, and rejoiced in the happy prospect of our being ere long for ever together with our blessed and glorious LORD. My brother, what has our Saviour done for us since that time? What is he doing for us now? what did he do ere time began? what will he do when time shall be no more? O how sweet is it to be melted down with a sense of redeeming love! It is this must strike the rock, and break the bars of unbelief asunder. O! to be kept always low at the feet of JESUS! It is right, my brother, always to insist on poverty of spirit, and emptying the creature of self. I heartily join with you in your petition for yourself and unworthy me. I know what a dreadful thing it is, to carry much sail without proper ballast, and to rejoice in a false liberty. Joy floating upon the surface of an unmortified heart, is but of short continuance. It puffs up, but doth not edify. I thank our Saviour that he is shewing us here more of our hearts, and more of his love. I doubt not but he deals so with you. I heartily greet your dear household, and your societies, and return my love to Mr. *S——*. I have heard him mentioned by lady *F—— G——*. If our Saviour gives me leave, I would gladly come to *Yorkshire*. But I think the cloud points strongly towards *Georgia*. He hath taken wonderful care of the sheep left in yonder wilderness, and interposed mightily in their behalf. I know you will thank him for it. I have had a loving conference with dear Mr. *B———*, and have received a sweet gospel-letter from dear Mr. *H———*. With this I send to him, you, and yours, and all the brethren, most hearty love, and am, my very dear brother,

Ever yours in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER CCCCXCVI.

To the Honourable Colonel G———.

Honoured Sir, *London, Dec. 21, 1742.*

YOUR kind letter put me in mind of righteous *Lot*, whose soul was grieved day by day at the ungodly conversation of the wicked. It was the same with holy *David*. His eyes, like yours, honoured Sir, gushed out with water because men kept not GOD's law. Let this be your comfort, honoured Sir, that ere long "the wicked shall cease from troubling you, and your weary soul shall be at rest." Our Saviour will give you a discharge, when you have fought a few more battles for him. An exceeding and eternal weight of glory is laid up for you, which GOD the righteous judge shall give you at that day. I confess your situation and employment cannot be very agreeable to a disciple of the prince of peace. But persons can better judge for themselves, than strangers can judge for them. However, I cannot say, I would change posts. Indeed, honoured Sir, I think mine is a glorious employ. I am not ashamed of my master, though my master may well be ashamed of me. I know no other reason, why JESUS has put me into the ministry, than because I am the chief of sinners, and therefore fittest to preach free grace to a world lying in the wicked one. Blessed be GOD, he gives much success, and for the generality answers your prayers, by giving me a thriving soul in a healthful body. But O my unfruitfulness! I am often ashamed that I can do no more for that JESUS who hath redeemed me by his own most precious blood. Honoured Sir, the thoughts quite confound me. O that I could lie lower! then should I rise higher. Could I take deeper root downwards, then should I bear more fruit upwards. I want to be poor in spirit. I want to be meek and lowly in heart. I want to have the whole mind that was in CHRIST JESUS. Blessed be his name for what he has given me already. Blessed be his name, that out of his fulness I receive grace for grace. O that my heart was CHRIST's library! I would not have one thief to lodge in my Redeemer's temple. "LORD, scourge out every thief," is the daily language of my heart. The LORD will hear my prayer, and let my cry come unto him. I have

juſt been writing to your honoured lady. I think ſhe grows in grace. May you and yours be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD! In about ſix weeks, GOD willing, I purpoſe to embark for *Georgia*. Our LORD has wonderfully appeared for my poor orphans. I am yet in arrears for them, but my GOD knows how to ſupply all my wants. I am enabled to caſt all my care upon him, believing that he careth for me. I hope to have the favour of another letter before I embark. In the mean while, I beg the continuance of your prayers, and am, honoured Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, though very unworthy brother, and ſervant in our glorious head,

G. W.

LETTER CCCCXCVII.

To Lady Jane H——— C———.

Honoured Madam, *London, Dec.* 23, 1742.

HOW are we obliged to your Ladyſhip? Had I time I would endeavour to tell you; but this is my comfort, when I have not time to write, I have a heart given me to pray for my dear friends, and you, Honoured Madam, have a conſtant ſhare in my poor petitions. I find by yours to my wife, that you complain of darkneſs. Ere now, I hope the day-ſtar hath again riſen in your heart, and you have been made to rejoice with exceeding great joy. Our LORD will not leave you comfortleſs; he will ſend the Holy Ghoſt to comfort you. The time of ſinging of birds ſhall come. Our LORD will not be always chiding.—This is only to ſhew you more of your heart, and make you what you long to be, a very poor ſinner. Our hearts, Honoured Madam, are ſo deſperately wicked, deceitful above all things, that without repeated inſtances of feeling our helpleſsneſs and miſery, we ſhould forget ourſelves, and run away from the feet of our LORD and Saviour. He therefore, in love, empties before he fills; humbles before he exalts. At leaſt, he is pleaſed to deal thus with me. I thank him for it, from my inmoſt ſoul: for was it not ſo, his mercies would deſtroy us. He helps me alſo to praiſe him. When I diſcover a new corruption, I am as thankful as a centinel keeping watch in a garriſon, would be at ſpying a ſtraggling enemy come near him. I ſtand not

not fighting with it myſelf in my own ſtrength, but run immediately and tell the captain of my ſalvation. By the ſword of his ſpirit, he ſoon deſtroys it, and makes me exceeding happy. This is what I call a ſimple looking to CHRIST. I know of no other effectual way of keeping the old man down, after he has gotten his deadly blow. Look up then, dear Madam, to a wounded Saviour. Go to him as a little child. Tell him your whole heart. He will hear your liſping, and ſet your ſoul at liberty. He is pleaſed graciouſly to anſwer my petitions, and to bleſs my poor labours. We have many good ſouls in our ſociety, that are gently coming into the knowledge of themſelves. Our Saviour deals moſt lovingly with us indeed. Laſt night we had a general love-feaſt. It was exceeding awful and refreſhing. I could have wiſhed for ſome of my dear *Scotland* friends. I was enabled to pray for them moſt fervently. May JESUS bleſs this letter to your ſoul! Wiſhing, above all things, that it may be in health and proſper, and with humble acknowledgments for all favours, I ſubſcribe myſelf, Honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

The END of the FIRST VOLUME.